Native Forestry in British Columbia

A New Approach

Task Force on Native Forestry
Final Report

November, 1991

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Task Force on Native Forestry

November 28, 1991

The Honourable Dan Miller
Minister of Forests

The Honourable Andrew Petter
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.
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Dear Mr. Miller and Mr. Petter

During the past year the Task Force on Native Forestry met and consulted with Native and non-Native forest users from across the province. We have listened to presentations, read submissions and discussed a broad range of Native forestry issues.

The provincial government, forest industry and First Nations should adopt the recommendations of the Task Force as a first step in establishing a viable Native forest sector in British Columbia. This will assist First Nations in job creation and community economic development.

We are now pleased to submit our final report and recommendations for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Harold Derickson
Chairman

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Report of the Task Force on Native Forestry

Executive Summary

The Task Force on Native Forestry has had the opportunity to travel around the province and hear the concerns and aspirations of Native people, the forest industry, and government representatives concerning Native forestry. The following recommendations are made after comprehensive meetings were held in Prince George, Fort St. John, Port Hardy, Nanaimo, Victoria, Vancouver, Chilliwack, Williams Lake, Kamloops, Merritt, Prince Rupert, Terrace, Hazelton, Cranbrook and Kelowna.

The Task Force's interim report titled *What We Heard* summarizes the presentations made at these meetings and is included as Appendix 5. The Task Force has attempted to draft recommendations that will benefit Native people and that are realistic in terms of program delivery.

Even though land claims were not within the mandate of the Task Force, the issue was raised at every meeting. Native people believe land claims settlements will give them the control necessary to address and correct the economic problems and social ills resulting from a system which has excluded them from the decision-making process.

Any form of Native ownership or control of traditional territories as part of land claim settlements will directly involve the forests. First Nations view forestry as a direct route to economic self-sufficiency. It promises community stability through job creation and increased revenues. Control of the forest resource is also viewed by First Nations as the key to environmental and cultural enhancement.

The Task Force recommends:

1. ***Since the settlement of aboriginal land claims will have a major impact on forestry, the provincial and federal governments resolve this key issue so as to provide a new basis for stability in Native and non-Native communities and in the forest industry.***

Until land claims are settled, there is a critical need to address the economic development and employment needs in Native communities. First Nations believe, as does the forest industry, that control of forest tenure is the most effective way to have a secure resource base for job creation and economic development.

Two mechanisms can give First Nations more control over forest lands in their traditional territories: first, through the tenure system like other licence holders; and second, through joint ventures and other contractual arrangements with forest companies and the Ministry of Forests.

At, present, less than one percent of the allowable annual cut is controlled by Native interests.

The Task Force recommends:

2. ***The Ministry of Forests provide 'priority allocations' of available allowable annual cut to First Nations forestry ventures, including a new First Nations Forest Licence tenure, to ensure an expanded and viable First Nations forest industry.***

3. ***Government, industry, and First Nations negotiate targets for First Nations' participation in the forestry sector, including Native tenure allocations within each forest district and region.***

4. ***The Ministry of Forests, forest companies, and First Nations negotiate Cooperative Forest Management Agreements within traditional territories to allow First Nations to become full and active partners with government and industry in forest resources management.***

If Native forestry is to be successful, the number of Native people educated and trained in forestry must be increased. Forestry can provide a focus and vehicle for employment training. There is a need for training in life skills, as well as in entrepreneurial and business management, to support the establishment of a Native-controlled forest sector.

University-trained Native foresters are needed to assist First Nations in all areas of forestry. To be successful, the learning situation must be similar to the Native Indian Teacher Education Program (NITEP) where Native people are culturally supported within the university environment.

There is also a chronic need for native forestry technicians who can work in Native communities to develop employment programs and to assist in forestry development.

An important element of education is to develop an interest in forestry while students are in primary and high school. An interest fostered early through courses, field trips, and career development could encourage Native students to pursue a career in forestry. Course material and organized training programs would be useful to implement an on-the-job training program.

The Ministry of Forests' Native Orientation Program should be continued. Joint ventures and internship training programs can be mechanisms to develop management skills in forestry.

The Task Force recommends:

5. ***The University of B.C.'s Forestry Faculty and the new University of Northern B.C. include Native forestry courses in their curricula. The two universities should hire a Native forestry coordinator in each faculty to set up a support program in natural resources so as to develop a learning environment that will encourage Native students to seek professional degrees in forestry.***

6. ***A first priority in funding be given to the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, to upgrade their facilities and increase staffing to the same standard as B.C. Institute of Technology, and a second Native technical school of the same calibre be developed on the coast.***

7. ***Native primary and secondary schools include forestry and natural sciences in their curriculum to prepare and encourage Native students to become foresters and forest technicians.***

Some companies have indicated that they either have, or are willing to assist, First Nations to train Native people in forestry skills.

The Task Force recommends:

8. ***The province and a First Nations forestry organization, such as the Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C., coordinate forestry training and job-creation programs for Native people with the forest industry and the federal government, to provide community based training and long-term jobs in all aspects of forestry.***

9. ***The province and forest industry cooperate with the Native forestry community to set up an apprenticeship forestry training program so Native individuals interested in forestry can gain practical managerial experience.***

Silviculture can play an important role in job creation and economic development in Native communities. It is one area in which Native participation can be rapidly enhanced.

Native people have also shown a particular skill and interest in forest fire fighting. The Native Unit Crew Program should be encouraged.

The Task Force recommends:

10. ***The Ministry of Forests and the forest companies develop a Native Silviculture Program with First Nations to ensure that Native people become more involved in the silviculture industry. One objective is to increase Native participation to at least 20% of the silviculture activities in the province through direct negotiation of stewardship contracts and other negotiated long-term arrangements to ensure ongoing community based employment opportunities.***

11. ***Native forestry extension workers be employed in the Ministry of Forests' district offices to assist First Nations in all aspects of forestry, with particular emphasis on silviculture.***

12. ***To facilitate the Native Silviculture Program, First Nations with an interest in forestry be provided with start-up funding to employ technicians or professional foresters. These positions should be filled by Native people, whenever possible.***

13. ***The Native Unit Crew Program be expanded with emphasis on Native participation in all areas of forest protection, including fire bosses and foremen, suppression planning, equipment hiring, and crew training.***

Economic development is important to enable First Nations' governments and communities to become less reliant on other governments. To achieve this objective, First Nations need increased access to financing to build viable companies.

The Task Force recommends:

14. ***A Native Forestry Capital Pool be created as a revolving fund to enable Native companies and individuals to borrow capital to establish forestry-related economic ventures.***

Many non-Native companies sub-contract and form joint ventures with large forest companies. The same relationship could create considerable economic opportunities for Native companies.

The Task Force recommends:

15. ***The forest industry establish a committee with First Nations to encourage forest companies and First Nations to form joint ventures.***

A number of recommendations deal with Native employment in the forest sector. In addition to those recommendations, the Task Force feels it is important to increase the level of Native employment in private companies and within the government.

The Task Force recommends:

16. ***The Ministry of Forests and forest companies consult with First Nations to develop and implement programs to increase direct, full-time Native employment within their staffs.***

All British Columbians are demanding a greater say in the management of the province's forests. First Nations need to be involved in the planning and management of the forest resources in their traditional territories. This will ensure that the resources that are important for their cultural and spiritual well-being can be incorporated in modern forest management practices. As well as access to the process, First Nations need the maps and data to make informed decisions.

The Task Force recommends:

17. ***First Nations be encouraged and assisted in participating in the integrated resource management, local resource use and timber supply area planning processes through a full consultation process involving the local Native communities.***

18. ***Funding be made available to First Nations so that they can be fully involved in the planning process at local, district, regional and provincial levels.***

19. ***First Nations archaeological sites and ancient burial grounds be identified and protected with the enforcement of legislation preventing their disturbance or destruction by forestry activities.***

As portrayed by the media, the relationship between First Nations, government, and the forest industry often appears threatening and confrontational. This was not the case at the Task Force hearings. Presenters were looking for solutions and offering advice. There was a wealth of goodwill between representatives of First Nations, the forest industry and government.

At present, there is no coordinated program to harness this goodwill. There needs to be an on-going forum to assist in implementing the recommendations of the Task Force and to communicate the needs and aspirations of First Nations in forestry.

A First Nations Forestry Council, consisting of representatives from First Nations, the forest industry, and government would be an effective forum to achieve these objectives.

The Task Force recommends:

20. ***A First Nations Forestry Council be established to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force and to continue and strengthen communication between First Nations, the government, and the forest industry on forestry issues.***

In conclusion, there are substantial opportunities to increase participation by First Nations in the forest sector and to increase employment and economic strength of Native communities. The challenge of realizing these opportunities requires a firm commitment by government, industry, and First Nations to work together.

1.0 Introduction

According to the 1986 census, the Native population in B.C. totalled 126,205. This constitutes approximately 4.5% of the provincial population of 2.8 million people.

Geographically, the Native population is distributed as follows:

Table 1

Native population of B.C. from 1986 Census

Region	Native population	Total population	Per cent Native
Vancouver	20,665	861,280	2.4
Fraser Valley	20,245	678,950	3.0
Vancouver Island	25,945	528,975	4.9
Okanagan-Kootenay	20,830	473,680	4.4
North Central/Skeena	38,520	304,585	12.6
Total	**126,205**	**2,847,470**	**4.4%**

Source: Census Canada

Those Native people that the federal government designates as 'status Indians' are organized in 196 Bands on 1,613 reserves. While these reserves are located in all parts of the province, the highest concentration is in the southwest and along the Fraser River south of Williams Lake. Because fish and seafood are traditionally the dietary mainstay of the Native people, many reserves are located beside water —tidewater, rivers and lakes.

The reserves cover a total of 338,000 hectares. According to Ministry of Forests standards, approximately 50% of this land base (168,000 hectares) is classified as productive forest land. This means the land is capable of producing commercial timber crops within a reasonable period.

The Native controlled productive forest land base of 168,000 hectares represents .3% of the total provincial productive forest land base of approximately 51.5 million hectares.

In forestry matters, First Nations must deal with the two senior levels of government:

- The federal government is responsible for on-reserve forestry. This is covered by Section 57 of the *Indian Act* and deals mainly with harvesting and timber sales. The *Act*, written in 1951, makes no mention of reforestation, silviculture or forest management.
- The provincial government deals with off-reserve matters under the *Forest Act* and other statutes. This applies to First Nations when they seek silviculture contracts or Crown forest tenures.

This dual authority complicates the management of reserve forests by making it more difficult for First Nations to enter into tenure arrangements for the joint management of on-reserve and off-reserve forests.

1.1 Mandate of the Task Force

On September 25, 1990, Forests Minister Claude Richmond, Native Affairs Minister Jack Weisgerber, and Harold Derickson, President of the Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C., announced the formation of the Task Force on Native Forestry.

The mandate of the Task Force is to:

1. recommend ways to increase Native participation in the forestry sector;
2. address Native participation from an economic and community development perspective; and,
3. consider:
   - forest tenures on Crown land;
   - joint ventures with forest companies;
   - training and skill development;
   - management expertise;
   - sources of capital;
   - contracts with government and companies for silviculture and forest protection;
   - employment in the forestry sector; and,
   - participation in resource management planning.

The specific objectives of the Task Force are to:

1. document current participation and interest by Native people;
2. document programs and opportunities currently available to Native people;
3. identify limitations to participation by Native people; and,
4. recommend strategies to increase Native participation.

To achieve the above objectives, the Task Force was directed to consult with Tribal Councils, First Nations, Native individuals, industry associations, and government agencies involved in forestry. The Task Force was further directed to report to the Minister of Forests, the Minister of Native Affairs and the Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C. by October 31, 1991. The final report will be made available to the public within 90 days of submission to the government and the Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C.

The terms of reference of the Task Force are attached as Appendix 1. A profile of the Task Force members is attached as Appendix 2. The Task Force held meetings in Prince George, Fort St. John, Port Hardy, Nanaimo, Victoria, Vancouver, Chilliwack, Williams Lake, Kamloops, Merritt, Prince Rupert, Terrace, Hazelton, Cranbrook and Kelowna. A list of presenters, who made submissions to the Task Force, is attached in Appendix 3.

1.2 The Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C.

The Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C. was founded in October, 1987, at a First Nations workshop on Native forestry held in Kamloops. The IFABC is staffed, operated and administered by Native people. It is a non-political, voluntary association of Native businesses, First Nations, organizations and individuals interested in becoming involved in the forest industry and improving the management of Native forest resources. IFABC seeks to promote the practice of multiple use of the forest resources and respect for the Native traditions and customs as they relate to the forest resource and environment.

1.3 History

Native culture is rooted in the forests. Many aspects of Native life depend on the forests — food, shelter, clothing, fuel, tools, transportation, medicine and spirituality. The arrival of Europeans and the development of the forest industry had a profound impact on the Native peoples. Initially, their societies were dislocated by exposure to foreign cultures and the ravages of diseases to which they had no immunity.

Until the 1880s, the Native population had been little affected by colonial or Dominion law. Joseph Trutch, the lieutenant governor at the time, dramatically altered the situation by signing into law the *Land Act* of 1874. The *Act* stated that any male person who was a British subject could pre-empt 320 acres of land as a settler. Indians, who were not British subjects, required the permission of the lieutenant governor.

Trutch would not grant permission to Native people. Earlier, as the colonial commissioner of lands, he had been instrumental in setting up the reserve system that created the smallest reserves per family in Canada and which denied Native people any right to pre-empt land or own resources, including forest lands. The reserve system became a federal government responsibility in 1880 with the passage of the *Indian Act*. Since then, Native people have been caught between two levels of government. The consequences, with respect to their ability to control and manage their own forest resources, have been serious.

Native people were more actively involved in the early history of the forest industry than they are today. Labour was scarce and scattered, and isolated logging camps and bush mills often relied on workers from local Native communities. As the network of roads, railway lines, and air service opened up the province, non-Native communities were established and grew. With the development of the hinterland, Native people were gradually displaced from the forest industry.

As the forest industry became more highly mechanized and skills became more specialized, jobs went to non-Natives, who had the training, experience, and union seniority. More recently, global competition has led to mergers creating fewer, larger, and more centralized milling and manufacturing operations. These factors have worked against the Native population, closing doors to opportunities and shutting them out of the industry.

One example is in the Mid-Coast Forest District. According to the Nuxalk Nation, 25 years ago timber harvesting jobs supported 65 Native families near Bella Coola. Now, non-Native crews are flown in from Vancouver and timber is barged to mills on the south coast. Today, six Native people are working part-time in timber harvesting. The impact on the Native community has been severe. This example has been repeated many times throughout B.C.

Native people see the situation as little better than it was in 1874. They still live on reserves. Access to timber is restricted because so little remains unallocated. They do not have the technical and professional skills to enter the workforce or manage the forest resource. Entry into the workforce is limited even further because union membership and seniority are often prerequisites.

Finally, First Nations do not have capital reserves to bid on silvicultural contracts, start businesses, or buy equipment. Attracting investment or securing bank loans is extremely difficult due to restrictions in the *Indian Act*, non-native perceptions and the absence of a proven track record of Native business successes.

The relationship between Native and non-Native people today and the role of government reflects 200 years of history. Successive overlays of policy and legislation have created a situation that has become untenable, given the empowerment of First Nations and the sympathetic support of the non-Native population.

2.0 Native Forestry in British Columbia

2.1 Forest Resources and Forest Tenures

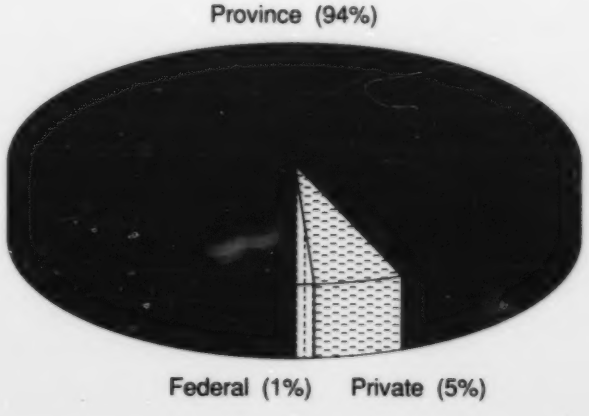
2.1.1 Introduction

British Columbia contains some of the most productive forest land in the world. Close to 64% (60.3 million hectares) of the province is forested. An estimated 51.5 million hectares are potentially productive and accessible for commercial use.

The Crown owns and controls approximately 94% of the forest land. About 5% is privately owned and the remaining 1% is under federal control as parks and Indian reserves.

Figure 1

Ownership of forest lands in B.C.



Source: Forestry Canada, *The State of Forestry in Canada*. 1990

Climate and geography have divided the forest industry into two distinct regions.

In the interior, a colder climate means trees are smaller, more densely spaced and slower growing than on the coast. Timber harvesting operations are generally smaller

and highly automated sawmills produce construction lumber. Since the 1960s, pulp mills have diversified the industry and contributed to the economic development of the interior.

On the coast, a wet, temperate climate contributes to fast growth and larger trees. Generally mountainous terrain makes harvesting difficult and costly, but the products are high-value lumber, plywood, specialty products, shakes and shingles. Decadent wood and residual chips from sawmills support pulp mills and an increasing number of newsprint mills.

These same geoclimatic variations shaped the province's aboriginal cultures, influencing the development of ethno-linguistic groups on the coast and in the interior. Complex, sophisticated cultures evolved, intricately entwined with the forest. Food, clothing, medicines and building materials came from the forests. The forests were also the focus of spiritual values.

2.1.2 Allowable Annual Cut

The Ministry of Forests allocates harvesting rights to companies and individuals through tenures issued under the *Forest Act*. These tenures, or licenses, give the holder the right to harvest timber in a specific area for a set period. Licence holders pay a stumpage fee to the Crown based on the amount of wood harvested and the comparative value stumpage system.

The majority of timber is harvested under tenures that specify a volume of timber that can be harvested on a yearly basis — the allowable annual cut. There are two types of forest management units:

- **Tree farm licence (TFL):** This is a replaceable area-based licence. Companies (or licencees) manage a defined area from the government for 25 years. The licencee must manage the area to support an approved annual harvest rate.
- **Timber supply area (TSA):** Tenure under the TSA is volume-based. Timber harvest is authorized under several types of licence: forest licences, timber sale licences, and woodlot licences. Each licence has varying requirements with regard to term (up to 15 years) and forest management obligations. Forest licences are the main tenure and, as with woodlot licences and a few older timber sale licences, are replaceable.

The area-based rights, such as tree farm licences, are most prevalent on the coast. Volume-based rights, such as forest licences, predominate in the interior. In B.C., approximately 25% of harvesting rights are area-based and 75% volume-based.

At present, most of the province's allowable annual cut is allocated under long-term replaceable tenures and is directly controlled by companies with wood processing facilities. A secure, long-term source of raw materials is critical to the forest industry's continuing prosperity.

The following table summarizes current allocation of allowable annual cut to the types of forest tenures.

Table 2

Allowable annual cut by tenure
October 1991

Tenure	Volume (cubic metres)	Per cent %
Tree farm licence	18,281,738	24.5
Forest licence	42,329,320	56.8
Timber sale licence	10,837,059	14.6
Woodlot licence	551,405	0.7
Other*	2,492,831	3.4
	74,492,353	**100.0**

*Includes Forest Service reserve and commitments for pulpwood agreements

Source: Ministry of Forests, October 1991 Apportionment

2.1.3 Native Tenures

Tree Farm Licence

The only Native tree farm licence in B.C. today is TFL #42 managed by Tanizul Timber Ltd. under the direction of the Tl'azt'en Nation (Stuart Trembleur Lake Band). The allowable annual cut for TFL 42 is 132,300 cubic metres. This tree farm licence is one of the smallest in the province but it provides long-term tenure security. Security allowed the Band to plan a long-term forest management strategy. As a result, it has successfully created permanent jobs and economic opportunities for Band members.

Forest Licences

There are three forest licences held by First Nations:

- Hecate Logging Ltd., jointly owned by the Ehattesaht Tribe and a non-Native forest company, Coulson Forest Products, has an allowable annual cut of 78,374 cubic metres;
- Zaul-Zap Industries Ltd., which is owned by the Gitwinksihlkw Band Council (Canyon City Band) in the Nass Valley has an allowable annual cut of 50,000 cubic metres; and,
- Nisga'a Tribal Council and has an allowable annual cut of 45,000 cubic metres per year for three years only.

These forest licences represent a small percentage of the total allowable annual cut for this type of tenure but they sustain logging operations which have benefited the First Nations involved.

Timber Sale Licences

There are two replaceable timber sale licences held by First Nations:

- the Moricetown Band near Smithers harvests 14,250 cubic metres annually. This wood supply, along with other short-term licences, sustains the Band's owned and operated sawmill and provides employment for Band members; and,
- N' Quatqua Logging Co. Ltd. (Anderson Lake Band) in the Lillooet area has an allowable annual cut of 7,278 cubic metres.

Burns Lake Specialty Wood holds a 40% interest in a value-added timber sale licence with an allowable cut of 900,000 cubic metres over 10 years. There are, also, a small number of short-term timber sale licences held by First Nations, such as McLeod Lake, Moricetown, and Takla Lake.

Woodlot Licences

At present, there are 22 woodlot licences held by First Nations in B.C. with a combined allowable annual cut of 30,899 cubic metres. The Ministry of Forests has encouraged First Nations to apply for woodlot licences.

Woodlot licences are, however, not large enough to encourage economic development or to serve as a base for significant job creation. Even the largest woodlot licence cannot produce enough timber to sustain a timber harvesting operation of a size that is necessary to create meaningful, permanent employment.

The Native community recognizes that securing a greater share of long-term tenure of the resource base is essential for economic growth and community development. There have been a number of Native applications for long-term tenures over the years but only one tree farm licence has been awarded.

The following table summarizes forest tenures currently held by Native organizations.

Table 3

Native forestry tenures - 1991

Tenure	AAC (m^3)
Tree farm licences	
Tanizul Timber Ltd.	132,000
Forest licences	
Hecate Logging (Ehattesaht Band) (50% of 78,374)	39,187
Zaul Zap Industries (Nisga'a)	50,000
Nisg'a Tribal Council	45,000
Burns Lake Development Corp. (15% interest in 431,519)	64,728
Timber sale licences	
Burns Lake Development Corp. (40% interest in 900,000 over 10 years)	36,000
Moricetown Band	59,250
N'Quatqua Logging Co. Ltd.	7,278
Woodlot Licences	
22 province-wide	30,899
Total	**464,342**

Source: Ministry of Forests

These tenures represent less than 1% of the current provincial allowable annual cut.

There is a perception among some First Nations that the Ministry of Forests has continued to issue tenures to non-Native interests, such as beetle salvage sales, and has done little to respond to their requests for tenure.

The Task Force heard from Native people that, according to the Ministry of Forests, long-term tenures are unavailable because the province's allowable annual cut is already fully committed. Any additional allocation would need further review as part of the process for determining levels of allowable annual cut.

It should be noted that, in 1989, the Ministry of Forests imposed a moratorium on awarding new tree farm licences pending a decision on the tenure recommendations made by the Forest Resources Commission.

Reserve Forests

Few Native communities have enough timber on their reserve lands to support a timber harvesting or processing operation. According to a 1985 study of the Association of B.C. Professional Foresters, if all the productive forest lands on Native reserves in B.C. were under management at the most basic levels, they could produce an allowable annual cut of 400,000 cubic metres — the equivalent of one medium-sized tree farm licence.

Native communities that harvest forests on their reserves generally receive little economic return for their timber. Income from harvesting is limited to revenues from log sales and the wages earned by individual members.

There are several reasons.

- Most of the timber harvesting is done by non-Native operators. This limits opportunities for people in the community to benefit from their own resource in terms of jobs, skill development, or training.
- Few First Nations have manufacturing facilities. The raw material is, therefore, shipped off the reserve for conversion. This reduces further employment opportunities, and eliminates the economic benefits produced by the higher revenues attached to manufactured products.
- Native forest land is fragmented into small, widely dispersed reserves.

These factors, along with the limited number of Native tenures off-reserve, impede the development of a significant Native forest industry.

2.1.4 Parks, Recreation and Tourism

Tourism Canada estimates that tourism contributes 6% to B.C.'s gross domestic product. More than 7 million tourists visited the province in 1989 generating revenues of more than $3.5 billion. Revenues from forest-related tourism and recreation activities totalled $294.9 million and provided 8,570 person-years of work.

There are 384 parks in B.C. covering 5.4 million hectares. Another 200,000 hectares consist of recreation areas, wilderness conservancies, wilderness and ecological reserves, and forest wilderness. The province's network of parks is popular with both local residents and tourists.

Forest-related tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in North America. It includes recreation activities, such as wilderness adventure tours, fresh water sport fishing, and wildlife viewing and hunting.

These activities frequently take place in traditional Native territories yet Native communities have received little economic benefit and Native participation in these activities has been limited.

2.1.5 Range

There are 10 million hectares of usable rangeland, which account for 10% of the total provincial land base. Approximately 8.9 million hectares is open and forested Crown range or leased range from the Crown. The Ministry of Forests administers Crown range. According to their statistics, 95% is used for raising cattle, 4% for horses, and 1% for sheep. Most Crown range is found in the forests and alpine meadows and is mainly used for summer grazing.

Private range land (approximately 1.1 million hectares) is mainly open range in valley bottoms. These areas are valued for spring and fall grazing. The livestock industry plays an important economic role throughout the interior. In 1988, beef production contributed $129 million to the provincial economy, providing 3,068 person-years of employment. This excludes secondary activities involving meat processing.

Ranching has been a way of life for Native people in the interior for more than 100 years. Several ranching communities are predominantly Native and depend on this industry to stabilize the economy during the forest industry's down cycles.

2.1.6 Watershed Management

Watershed management is recognized as one of the key elements in any integrated resource management plan. The type and extent of timber harvesting in a forest watershed impacts the quality and quantity of water available. Watershed management is also crucial to maintaining essential habitat and migration routes for more than 70 species of sport and commercial fish. Until quite recently, government regulation of lakes, rivers and watershed areas generally focused on conserving fisheries and protecting water supplies for agricultural, industrial, and municipal use. Expanding populations and industrial development have increased consumption. Changing social values, however, have also increased pressure to preserve water for environmental, social, scientific, recreational and cultural uses.

Native communities have a practical concern for good watershed management stemming from their historic reliance on fisheries. Originally, many interior Native reserves included water leases. Over time and for a variety of reasons, these became inactive and reverted to the Crown and were re-allocated to non-Natives.

Issues involving water include watershed management, foreshore rights, and irrigation. Water issues are complex and are of particular importance in the dry interior. Concerns of interior First Nations focus on irrigation for ranching and farming. On the coast, the concerns relate to fishing, food-gathering activities, and the implications for foreshore development, for example, the location of fish farms, marinas, and resorts.

2.1.7 Wildlife

B.C. forests are irreplaceable feeding and breeding habitats for 280 species and sub-species of wildlife, 14 species of reptiles, and 20 species of amphibians. Economic activities related to wildlife include trapping and hunting. The province collected $6.5 million from the 1988/89 hunting season, excluding the monetary value of the meat.

Trapping

Wildlife is important to Native people because trapping is a traditional source of food, clothing, and revenue throughout the province. The economy of many remote Native communities is based on trapping.

The Lake Babine Band of the Carrier Sekani people exemplify this way of life. Almost totally dependent on trapping, the Band had remained self-reliant within its traditional territories until recently when timber harvesting had a major negative impact on many of its most productive traplines. The Band reports they were neither consulted about the impact of timber harvesting nor have they been compensated for their losses to date.

Certain companies in other sectors, such as B.C. Hydro, Petro Canada, and Placer Dome, have trapper compensation programs. The forest industry, which has by far the greatest impact on trapping, provides no examples of similar compensation programs.

2.2 B.C. Forest Industry

2.2.1 Economic Value

In 1990, Canada was the leading exporter of manufactured forest products, accounting for 20% of the total exports worldwide.

The B.C. forest industry contributes more to the province's gross domestic product (GDP) than any other industrial sector. In 1990, forest industry payments to all levels of government totalled $1.25 billion. This was despite a severe downturn, when the value of forest products sold by B.C. dropped from $13.6 billion in 1989 to $11.8 billion in 1990.

2.2.2 Employment

According to statistics compiled and analysed by the Statistics Division of the Ministry of Finance, employment in the forest industry decreased steadily between 1984 and 1990. Direct industry employment declined from approximately 85,000 jobs in 1989 to 81,000 in 1990. Productivity, however, increased and contributed to an increase in the gross domestic product. These statistics reflect a shift to manufacturing higher-value products, which require a highly mechanized industry with a smaller, more specialized workforce.

One out of every 14 jobs in Canada is either directly or indirectly related to forestry.[1] In B.C., the forest industry generates 17% of all jobs and is by far the biggest employer. Total annual wages and benefits to forest industry employees is estimated at $5 billion annually.

Each job in the forest industry is generally associated with generating two jobs elsewhere in the economy. This indirect employment accounts for an additional 162,000 jobs.

Native Employment

Few statistics exist to give an accurate picture of current Native employment in the forest industry. Information from the International Woodworkers of America/ Canada and other studies indicates that there were approximately 1,200 Native forest industry workers in B.C. in 1990. This includes both full-time and part-time workers.

[1]Forest Resource Commission, *The Future of Our Forests*, April, 1991

Most were involved in harvesting, silviculture, and reforestation and some worked in the milling and manufacturing sectors. An estimated 25% to 30% of these jobs are with Native-controlled companies.

High unemployment levels in Native communities emphasize the small number of Native people currently employed in the forest industry. Many Native silviculture workers are participating in federal government-sponsored job creation and training programs. Although any employment is better than none, such short-term programs do not provide the continuity of work experience necessary to give workers the confidence and skills to secure long-term work.

There are cases where workers from these job-creation programs have become skilled contract workers and started their own contracting companies. These cases are, however, the exception rather than the norm.

Ministry of Forests Employment Programs

The Task Force reviewed Native employment within the Ministry of Forests as of July 1991. Of the 3,244 full-time employees, 40 were Native (1.2%); of 587 auxiliary employees, 57 were Native (9.7%).

The Ministry of Forests recently implemented two training programs which target Native participation in practical, on-the-job training within the Ministry.

Native Unit Crew Program

This program trains workers in silviculture and fire fighting. The objective is to provide flexibility so that when not fighting fires, crew members are engaged in other types of work.

Workers are employed full-time by the Ministry of Forests on four-to-six-month contracts. The Ministry has targeted Native communities for the Unit Crew Program and has consulted with First Nation administrations.

Ten twenty person crews were established in 1991. Two of the most successful crews to date are a 20 person Native crew in Vanderhoof and a crew with 18 Native employees and a Native foreman in Hazelton.

Orientation Program for Native People

This is a straightforward, flexible program to create positive learning experiences for Native people. Approximately 50 people were hired in 1991. While the program is currently being evaluated, the Ministry of Forests office at Hazelton in the Kispiox Forest District feels it has been a great success. A Native forest technician, who participated in the program and was originally trained at Malaspina College, was encouraged to apply for a permanent position on staff.

2.2.3 Native Forest Industry

Forest Companies

This section provides examples of Native-owned companies in the forest industry in three categories: integrated or speciality forest companies; timber harvesting companies; and milling and manufacturing companies. Appendix 4 presents 15 examples of successful native forestry ventures.

Integrated or Speciality Companies

The following are examples of integrated or speciality forestry companies.

- The Tl'azt'en Nation owns and operates Tanizul Timber Ltd., which controls tree farm licence 42. Tanizul has operated for 10 years and represents one of the few long-term comprehensive Native forest management companies in B.C.
- The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, based in Port Alberni, owns and operates a successful tree-seedling nursery. The nursery supplies some of the needs of local forest companies and its member First Nations.
- Ne-Duchun Forest Products Ltd. is owned by three First Nations—Stellaquo, Nadleh and Stoney Creek. The company has a crew of 20 Band members working in timber harvesting, silviculture, and fire suppression.

Timber Harvesting Companies

There are no accurate figures for Native involvement in timber harvesting today. However, there are several Native owned and operated timber harvesting companies in B.C:

- Cheslakee Logging Ltd., based on Vancouver Island, is solely owned by the Hanuse family. The company is one of the oldest Native-owned timber harvesting contracting businesses in B.C. It carries out stump-to-dump

timber harvesting under contract to Canadian Forest Products. Cheslakee also operates a small shake and shingle mill in the Fraser Valley. Dan Hanuse, the founder, is a respected member of the coastal forest industry and has been the president of the Truck Loggers Association.

- Hecate Logging Ltd. is jointly owned and operated by the Ehattesaht Native Tribe and a non-Native timber company, Coulson Timber Products. The company holds a forest licence with an allowable annual cut of 78,374 cubic metres.

- Cariboo Indian Enterprises Ltd. of Williams Lake is owned by 15 First Nations and operates the 41,000 hectare Chilcotin Military Block of the Department of National Defence, under an agreement with the federal and provincial governments. The firm owns its own logging equipment and employs up to 35 Native people.

Milling and Manufacturing Companies

Within the last two decades, several Native communities have either set up their own manufacturing enterprises or entered into joint ventures with non-Native companies. Several more joint ventures have either just started up or have been operating for only a short time.

- The Burns Lake Native Development Corporation consists of five local First Nations — Lake Babine, Cheslatta, Nee Tahi Buhn, Burns Lake and Rose Lake. Babine Forest Products began in 1974 as a joint venture between Weldwood Canada (44%), Westar Timber (24%), Eurocan Pulp and Paper (24%) and the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation (8%). In 1988, Westar sold its shares to the other partners on a proportional basis so that today the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation owns 10% of the company.

  Babine Forest Products is located on the Burns Lake Indian Reserve in north-central B.C. It operates a modern, optimized sawmill and planer mill. Annual production is 230 million board feet with a lumber recovery of 270 board feet per cubic meter. It is reported to be one of the most cost efficient mills in the province's interior.

  Direct Native involvement includes a seat on the management committee and over 32% of the workforce or 70 jobs. Of these jobs, 55 are key operator or trades positions and more than 50% of these employees have been at Babine for 10 years or more. Also, the sawmill superintendent, safety committee chairman and a maintenance supervisor are Native employees.

The Burns Lake Native Development Corporation also holds a 40% interest in a joint venture called Burns Lake Specialty Wood Products Ltd., which is building a $10 million remanufacturing mill in Burns Lake.

This enterprise holds a timber sale licence under the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program with a total cut of 900,000 cubic metres over 10 years.

- The North Thompson Indian Band of Barriere operates on its reserve a portable sawmill, which cuts lumber for Tolko Industries as part of a cooperative forest management program with the company.

2.3 Silviculture and Protection

Although the province and forest companies have been practising silviculture since the 1940s, it was not until the 1960s that silviculture was recognized as essential for reforestation. As available old growth forest became less accessible, renewing and tending second growth forests increased in importance. The public has only recently recognized the value of silviculture as a forest management tool.

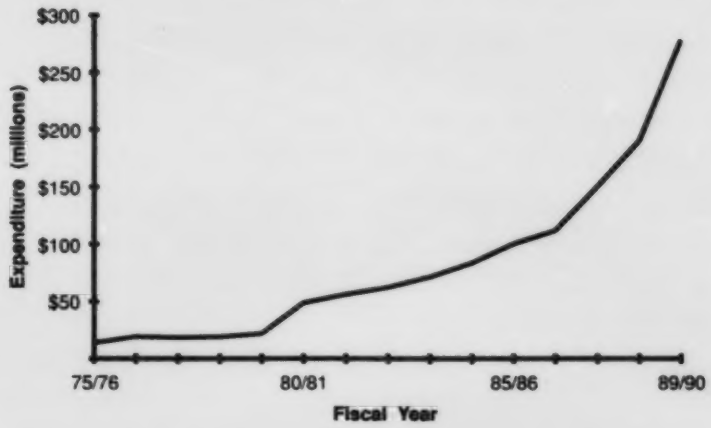
The increasing importance of silviculture is reflected in the increased number of seedlings planted. In 1960, seven million seedlings were planted on approximately 10% of the harvested areas. In 1990, an estimated 282 million seedlings were planted on approximately 50% of cutover areas. The remaining 50% is managed for natural regeneration. The Ministry of Forests' silviculture budget was approximately $14 million in 1975/76 and $278 million in 1989/90.

Silviculture work contracted by forest companies is currently experiencing rapid employment growth. The forest industry's silviculture expenditures have increased dramatically. There are, however, no exact statistics currently available for private industry expenditures on silviculture.

The following graph shows the increase in silviculture expenditures by the Ministry of Forests in the past 15 years.

Figure 2

Silviculture expenditures 1975-1990



Source: *Ministry of Forests Annual Reports 1975-1990*

2.3.1 Silviculture Programs

Basic silviculture is a legal requirement for all areas harvested by major licensees and under the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program.

Contract work includes:

- cone collection for seeds;
- planting harvested areas;
- site preparation to promote natural regeneration and enhance seedling survival rates;
- brushing to promote free growth;
- spacing juvenile stands to allow for optimum growth of marketable timber;

- surveys to monitor growth and survival; and,
- protection (pest control).

Most of this work is performed by private contractors working for the Ministry of Forests or forest companies. The amount of silviculture contract work has tripled over the last 10 years and is projected to remain at the present level or increase.

In 1989-1990, expenditures by the Ministry of Forests generated about one million person-days of employment. Much of this work takes place in remote rural areas close to Native communities. Contracting firms based outside these areas frequently bring in their own crews and self-contained camps. As a result, the local Native communities often receive only a small portion of the benefits of government and industry silviculture expenditures. One of the perceived obstacles to hiring local Native workers is the lack of work skills, training, and practical experience.

For Native silviculture workers, jobs have tended to be single-task, low-skill and seasonal. Now the focus is on developing skills in a number of areas such as fire fighting, spacing, and brushing. Additional skills help workers secure jobs and remain employed throughout the year.

2.3.2 Native Silviculture

Silviculture contracting offers employment opportunities for Native workers close to their own communities in their traditional territories. However, there are obstacles preventing Native involvement as contractors.

The Task Force heard that the two biggest hurdles to Native participation are lack of business skills and difficulty in arranging financing.

The contracting business is extremely competitive with small profit margins. Financial institutions are reluctant to finance anyone without solid equity to support the debt. Therefore, it is difficult for Native organizations and individuals to arrange financing to purchase equipment and pay wages.

There have been a number of cases in different parts of the province where the Native community, the local forest company, and Ministry of Forests' office have worked together to ensure local Native contractors and crews were given preference in the awarding of local contracts. The required work was done satisfactorily and provided much needed local employment.

Despite difficulties, several First Nations and Native individuals have successfully formed contracting companies.

- Chief Jack Thompson of the Ditidaht Band, located in the Nitinat Lake area of the west coast of Vancouver Island, has run a successful silviculture contracting crew for several years.
- In the Interior, the Fraser Canyon Indian Administration runs the Siwash Silviculture Company. The company employs workers from the five member First Nations on planting and spacing contracts for local forest companies and the Ministry of Forests. The Native supervisor was trained at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and now trains and manages the all-Native crews.
- In the Okanagan Valley, the Westbank Indian Band began their involvement with forestry after obtaining 1,088 hectares of forest land, which they harvested. In 1986, the Band was granted a woodlot licence. Band members have been trained in all types of silviculture contracting and have successfully completed a number of contracts on and off reserve lands.
- In the Nass Valley, the Nisga'a Tribal Council has worked with the local forest company and Ministry of Forests' office to secure silviculture contract work for Native crews from local villages. There are now four Native silviculture contract crews employing 30 people working on spacing and brushing contracts in the valley.
- The Kyuquot Tribe on the west coast of Vancouver Island has a six-person silviculture crew that has successfully bid on and completed brushing and planting contracts for Interfor and the Ministry of Forests.
- The Soda Creek Band of Williams Lake has a silviculture crew that has successfully completed contracts for the Ministry of Forests.
- The Nuxalk Nation of Bella Coola has a silviculture crew that has successfully completed contracts for Fletcher Challenge and the Ministry of Forests.
- Ne-Duchun Forest Products of Fraser Lake has a 20 person silviculture crew, which is also a fire suppression unit crew on contract to the Ministry of Forests.
- The Oweekeno Band of River's Inlet has trained Band members in silviculture and has successfully operated contracting crews.

2.3.3 Forest Resource Development Agreements (FRDA)

The first Canada-B.C. Forest Resource Development Agreement (FRDA I) from 1985 to 1990 had a budget of $300 million. A total of $7 million was earmarked for an Indian Forest Lands Subprogram and funded inventories and management plans for about half the reserve land in the province.

These management plans document excessive timber exploitation in the past and emphasize the urgent need for rehabilitation. The silviculture/reforestation prescriptions to correct the situation require $17 million for backlog reforestation and intensive silviculture.

FRDA II (1991 to 1995), with a budget of $200 million, allocates $7.8 million to a First Nations Woodlands Forestry Subprogram. This subprogram covers forest management activities on reserve land only. It targets silviculture activities, such as planting and spacing that are included under current and new management plans.

The Public Information and Forest Education Subprogram, which has a budget of $5 million, provides for the development of an accredited vocational training program for forestry workers.

2.3.4 Forest Fire Protection

Fire Protection in B.C.

The Forest Protection Program administered by the Ministry of Forests has an annual budget of $80 million, but expenditures depend on weather conditions and fire severity. The value of the timber resource protected is estimated to be more than $37 billion. Protecting areas near rural communities is a high priority.

The annual number of fire starts is increasing with the current average being 2,800. Timber value has also increased, making it necessary to aggressively attack fires in remote areas that were at one time deemed inconsequential. Despite the increase in fire starts, the average area burned has decreased from 200,000 hectares to less than 100,000 hectares. While B.C. suffers from 31% of the total fires in Canada, it experiences only seven percent of the area burned and uses 28% of the total funds spent in Canada on fire suppression.

Historically, Native communities and individuals have been involved in fighting fires in B.C., especially in the northern part of the province. Native people work as part-time fire fighters in remote areas where this is often one of the primary sources of employment in the summer.

The Ministry of Forests instituted a special program of Native Unit Crews in 1991. Ten Native crews have proved to be successful in fire fighting. The crews have been hired as seasonal ministry employees for four month terms and work on other forestry projects when there are no fires. The Native Unit Crews now form an important part of the ministry's fire suppression program.

Fire Protection on Reserves

In 1964, the federal and B.C. governments signed an agreement covering fire suppression services on Indian reserves. Under the agreement, the province provides the same services to Indian reserves as it does on provincial crown land. The agreement can be terminated by the provincial Minister of Forests or the federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs upon written notice on March 31, 1992.

The federal government has no forest fire-fighting capacity in B.C. whereas the province has a fully integrated system of trained crews in each forest district, province-wide detection capability, planning systems, equipment, and water bombers. The federal government pays an annual amount for this service based on the average, actual, direct cost incurred by the B.C. Forest Service for fighting fires originating on Native reserves. The average is based on the preceding five years plus the lesser of 20% or $36,000 for administration costs.

The following table shows the amount paid to the province since 1984/85.

Table 4

Federal payments for fire suppression

1984/85	$334,500
1985/86	362,600
1986/87	639,600
1987/88	569,700
1988/89	700,900
1989/90	732,100
Total	**$3,339,400**

Source: *Lands, Revenues and Trusts Forestry Review*, 1990

2.4 Social and Cultural Values

2.4.1 Forest Dependent Communities

According to a Forestry Canada report, *Forest Sector Dependency in Rural British Columbia*, 1971-81, 130 B.C. communities rely on the forest sector for their livelihood. Many of these communities have large Native populations.

The following table presents typical examples of forest sector dependent communities.

Table 5

Per cent workforce in forest-dependent communities

Community	Percentage of workforce involved in the forest industry
Williams Lake	55.6
Kitimat	22.5
Castlegar	67.0

Source: Forest Resources Commission, *The Future of Our Forests*. April, 1991

2.4.2 Cultural and Spiritual Values

According to Native tradition, forests and natural resources are considered sacred. They are not viewed as finite commodities but as a perpetual resource to be used but not exploited.

Trees are important for ceremonies, medicines, and spiritual healing. Forests are the source of certain traditional medicinal and ceremonial plants and for traditional food gathering, trapping, and hunting. Large, old-growth, cedars are the only trees suitable for producing totem poles and traditional canoes. Forests feature prominently in oral history and sacred stories. This attitude still prevails in Native culture and must be considered in any form of Native forest management. The Task Force believes Native spiritual and cultural values must be incorporated into modern forest management practices.

2.5 Forestry Education and Training

Technology Programs

Six B.C. institutions offer forest technology training:

- B.C. Institute of Technology, Burnaby;
- College of New Caledonia, Prince George;
- Malaspina College, Nanaimo;
- Northwest Community College, Terrace;
- Selkirk College, Castlegar; and,
- Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Merritt.

The programs are all for two years and run on a semester system. Curriculum tends to be broad-based and technical, covering subjects which relate to the theory and practice of intensive forest management.

The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in Meritt offers the only Native-run technical forestry program. The two-year Natural Resource Technologies Program is certified through the New Caledonia Forest Resource Technology Program.

The technical forestry program offered by the Northwest Community College in Terrace incorporates the traditional Native perspective in its course material. No comparable program exists in the south or mid-coast areas.

There are 20 Native forest technologists among the 1,000 certified technologists in B.C.

University Programs

The University of B.C. is the only institution offering forestry degree programs. In 1989, the Faculties of Agriculture Sciences and Forestry proposed that a natural resource science coordinator be hired to develop and implement an extensive program of awareness and recruitment aimed at Native students. This proposal is strongly supported by Native communities but has not been funded.

Only two of the approximately 2,100 registered professional foresters working in B.C. are Native.

Worker Training

Silviculture worker training courses are funded through Employment Canada's job training programs. Participants gain work skills and on-the-job training while earning a minimum wage. Some of these trainees have become successful contract workers.

Because most of these programs are of short duration, the continuity vital for skill development through on-going employment is interrupted. As a result, many trainees do not have the opportunity to reach the level where they are properly prepared for contract work conditions.

FRDA II allocates funding for the development of a silviculture worker certification course but nothing has yet been developed. Furthermore, funds are not specifically designated for Native people.

Native Perspectives

The Task Force heard that, to be successful, native forestry must focus on training and education. Native people urge a more holistic approach to accommodate traditional cultural and spiritual values.

In order for this to become a reality, the principles of native forestry must first be defined. Appropriate curricula could then be developed around these principles.

Native forestry administrations, Native forest companies, and Native educational institutions must be staffed by Native people for Native forestry programs to be most effective over the long term. This will ensure the continuation of cultural values which are important to Native people.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 Land Claims

The resolution of Native land claims is the single most important land-use challenge facing Native people and the province of B.C. Approximately 20% of the province is under treaty and the remaining 80% is subject to some form of comprehensive claim. The issues of aboriginal land title and land claims have the potential to impact the management of all natural resources.

No other sector of the economy will be more affected by land claims than forestry. The forest industry touches the lives of most British Columbians by virtue of its presence in all regions of the province. It also affects many other resources and contributes more to the economy than any other industry sector. It ranks as the number one employer.

Any form of Native ownership or control of traditional territories as part of land claim settlements will directly involve the forests. First Nations view forestry as a direct route to economic self-sufficiency. Through job creation and increased revenues, it promises community stability. Native people believe control of the forest resource is also the key to environmental and cultural enhancement.

One message came through loud and clear at every Task Force hearing. Native people believe land claims will give them the control necessary to address and correct the economic problems and social ills resulting from a system which has largely excluded them.

The Task Force recommends:

1. ***Since the settlement of aboriginal land claims will have a major impact on forestry, the provincial and federal governments resolve this key issue so as to provide a new basis for stability in Native and non-Native communities and in the forest industry.***

Resolution of land claims will take time. In the short term, ways must be found for the provincial government and the forest industry to work with First Nations to create jobs and economic development opportunities in the forest sector.

If First Nations obtain large, long-term forest tenures as part of land claims settlements, forest management skills will be essential. Many Native people believe it is important to learn forest management skills now so that trained people will be in place when land claims are resolved.

3.2 Tenure

After land claims, secure tenure is considered the most important factor to increase Native participation in the forest industry. Access to resources over the long-term is as important to Native communities and Native entrepreneurs as it is to non-Native interests.

The Task Force believes there are two ways First Nations can become more involved in the forest industry:

- by directly holding their own tenures; and,
- through contracts, cooperative management agreements, and joint ventures.

Economic development depends on secure, long-term access to the resource. The forest industry and government recognize the importance of secure tenures in attracting investment, creating jobs, providing consistent forest management, and stabilizing communities. Tree farm licences were established to provide these benefits. As a result, many Native leaders want to acquire this form of tenure.

Secure access to forest resources could be accomplished in a variety of ways that will also allow the forest industry, government, and non-Native communities the security they need for long-term planning. There is a need for flexibility as some timber supply areas can provide greater opportunities for First Nations' involvement than others.

According to the Price Waterhouse study *The Forest Industry in B.C. — 1990*, each 1000 cubic metres of harvested timber produces approximately one direct job in timber harvesting and manufacturing, and an estimated two indirect jobs in supplying goods and services to the industry.

The total for 1990 was 81,000 direct and 162,000 indirect jobs. Therefore, each 1% of allowable annual cut, which could be allocated to First Nations, could produce 800 direct and 1,600 indirect jobs. Considering First Nations' unemployment rate exceeds 50% in the 20 to 40 age bracket, involvement in the forest industry could provide employment for a large number of Native people and provide a substantial base for community economic development.

3.2.1 Native Allowable Annual Cut

> ***"The Bands of the Cariboo Tribal Council have a very strong interest and concern for the management and tenure of our forest resource. We know the importance of stewardship. First and foremost in our minds has got to be the legacy we leave future generations. Sustainable development has to be more than a goal. It has to be a first condition of any renewable resource use."***
>
> **William Chelsea**
> **Cariboo Tribal Council**

Since many Native people tend to live in communities where the main activities are timber harvesting and silviculture, their jobs are directly linked to tenure. Indirect jobs are mostly in the service sector and tend to concentrate in larger population centres. Fewer of these jobs are held by Native people.

Native tenures must be large enough to be economically viable and generate adequate employment. At present, the less than 1% of the allowable annual cut controlled by Native interests is not large enough to allow them to achieve either goal.

While relatively few areas in the province have uncommitted wood where new long-term tenures could be awarded, opportunities exist for the province to allocate allowable annual cut to First Nations in the future. For example, between 1987 and 1991, 640,000 cubic metres of timber were returned to the Crown following corporate mergers and sales. Under the *Forest Act*, 5% of the licenced volume of timber is returned to the Crown when a timber licence is transferred. "Opportunity" wood and short term non-replaceable licences may be available in some areas where timber was not previously considered merchantable or where salvage is necessary.

The Task Force believes the government should consider these and other options as a means of increasing short and long-term tenures. Where First Nations provide a viable proposal, the government could award "priority allocation" of new tenures aimed specifically at Native job creation and economic development.

First Nations should have the opportunity to secure tenures through the normal system or through a First Nations forest licence. This new tenure should be area and community based with the intention of providing long-term economic development opportunities to Native communities and businesses. The standards of forest management and care under a First nations forest licence should be equal to, or exceed, provincial standards.

The Task Force recommends:

2. *The Ministry of Forests provide 'priority allocations' of available allowable annual cut to First Nations forestry ventures, including a new First Nations Forest Licence tenure, to ensure an expanded and viable First Nations forest industry.*
3. *Government, industry, and First Nations negotiate targets for First Nations' participation in the forestry sector, including Native tenure allocations within each forest district and region.*

3.2.2 Cooperative Forest Management Agreements

> *"An example of a cooperative forestry interaction is in the Kingcome Valley, where our company consulted with the Kingcome Band about the TFL application proposal and the Band supported the company's application in view of employment opportunities. Now there is a cooperative business connection between our TFL 34 and the Kingcome Band Woodlot Licence 48. They sell their main cottonwood crop to Scott paper and provide a range of contracting services to the company in the development of the TFL lands."*
>
> **Ken Stenerson**
> **Woodlands Manager, Scott Paper Ltd**

Native people recognize that resolving the land claims issue is the first step in a process that will ultimately result in self-determination and economic self-sufficiency. In the shorter term, new initiatives are necessary to assist and direct Native people toward their goal.

It is understood that, to be successful, any new arrangements or agreements must satisfy the needs of not only Native people but also the government and the forest industry. At the same time, they must not prejudice land claims.

The key to any agreement is flexibility. First Nations must be allowed to expand their operations as opportunities arise. They should also be able to assume a greater management role as they gain experience and develop skills. Furthermore, where a company is willing to form a joint venture with a First Nations' party, the government should give priority to providing the appropriate tenure to ensure the venture has greater opportunity for success.

Agreements would take the form of memorandums of understanding between a First Nations' party, government, and a company to:

- participate jointly in planning and forest management;
- provide opportunities for Native economic development;
- train Native people in forestry activities such as silviculture, protection, timber harvesting, and management;
- enter into joint stewardship silviculture contracts;
- create Native owned and operated sub-contracting ventures;
- provide overall stability in resource management;
- produce a guaranteed wood supply to manufacturing facilities; and,
- create long-term economic stability for both Native and non-Native communities.

Two recent memorandums between the Ministry of Forests and the Takla Lake Band and Ne Duchen Forest Products have incorporated some of these elements. Cooperative forest management agreements need to provide strong commitments from all parties and be flexible.

The Task Force recommends:

4. ***The Ministry of Forests, forest companies, and First Nations negotiate Cooperative Forest Management Agreements within traditional territories to allow First Nations to become full and active partners with government and industry in forest resources management.***

3.3 Education and Training

> ***"The education of our people on natural resources, at all levels, from primary school to university, is the single most important social program that will ensure our sustained involvement in the management of the forest resources of the province."***
>
> **Chief Gordon Antoine**
> **Nicola Valley Indian Administration**

The Canadian education system is based on and reflects a fundamentally European culture. Because culture shapes values and perceptions, it has profound influence on learning. Historically, removing Native people from their culture and integrating

them in a non-Native educational system has not been successful. Education is successful where Native students remain in their communities and are taught by teachers sensitive to Native culture and traditions. This principle applies to both general education and to forestry related training and skills development.

Native people recognize the importance of increasing the number of their people educated and trained in forestry. Forestry can provide a focus and vehicle for employment training. There is a need for training in "life skills," entrepreneurship, and business management, to establish a Native forestry sector.

The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology is the only Native-run post-secondary school offering a forest program in the province. There is a need for university, technical and vocational level schools to be established in different regions of the province to match cultural and ecological differences. Linkages should be formed with existing forestry training and education institutions but ultimately the goal should be independent Native operated schools.

The conclusion of the Task Force is that training in native forestry must be Native driven. It should be based on values consistent with Native culture, heritage and spirituality. While Native people take a holistic approach to forest management, they also recognize the need to maintain high professional standards. The principles of Native forestry must be defined before developing appropriate curricula. The material should combine traditional Native values with current forest management practices.

The First Nations, Tribal Councils, Native-controlled companies, and involved schools and institutions must be staffed largely by Native forestry specialists and other qualified individuals, who have a good understanding of Native culture and values, for Native forestry programs to be successful over the long-term.

Professional Foresters

Native people have identified a need for university-trained Native foresters to assist First Nations in all areas of forestry. Presently, there are only two Native registered professional foresters in the province. The Native people suggest adding Native forestry courses at the University of B.C. and the University of Northern B.C. to increase the number of Native registered professional foresters.

The Task Force also heard that, to ensure successful completion of the program, students must have cultural support within the university environment. The Task Force suggests using the Native Indian Teacher Education Program (NITEP) as a model for the forestry programs. The Native Indian Teacher Education Program recruits students in high school and provides cultural support throughout the student's university career.

The Task Force recommends:

5. ***The University of B.C.'s Forestry Faculty and the new University of Northern B.C. include Native forestry courses in their curricula. The two universities should hire a Native forestry coordinator in each faculty to set up a support program in natural resources so as to develop a learning environment that will encourage Native students to seek professional degrees in forestry.***

Technicians

There is a need for Native forestry technicians and extension workers who can work in Native communities to develop employment programs and assist in forestry development. Twenty of the estimated 1,000 certified forestry technicians in B.C. are Native.

During a visit to the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, the Task Force found a highly motivated student body and dedicated staff working in less than adequate facilities. The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology should receive the funding it requires to upgrade its facilities and increase staffing to standards comparable to the B.C. Institute of Technology. There is also a need for more Native training centres to be opened in other areas of the province.

The Task Force recommends:

6. ***A first priority in funding be given to the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, to upgrade their facilities and increase staffing to the same standard as B.C. Institute of Technology, and a second Native technical school of the same calibre be developed on the coast.***

Native Community Schools

An important element of education is developing an interest in forestry while students are in primary and secondary school. An interest fostered through courses, field trips, and career development could encourage Native students to pursue a career in forestry.

The Task Force recommends:

7. ***Native primary and secondary schools include forestry and natural sciences in their curriculum to prepare and encourage Native students to become foresters and forest technicians.***

On-the-job Training

Several forest companies indicated they either have or are willing to assist First Nations and Tribal Councils to train their people, especially in silviculture. Course material and organized training programs are essential to implement this program. The Ministry of Forests' Native Orientation Program should receive encouragement.

The Task Force recommends:

8. ***The province and a First Nations forestry organization, such as the Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C., coordinate forestry training and job creation programs for Native people with the forest industry and the federal government, to provide community based training and long-term jobs in all aspects of forestry.***

Management Training

Native people said that one of the critical aspects of any organization is expertise in management. Training is needed and companies can assist First Nations and Tribal Councils to develop the required skills. Joint ventures and internship training programs can be mechanisms to develop management skills in forestry.

The Task Force recommends:

9. ***The province and forest industry cooperate with the Native forestry community to set up an apprenticeship forestry training program so Native individuals interested in forestry can gain practical managerial experience.***

3.4 Silviculture

> ***"We feel that steps can be taken today and in the next two years that will bring immediate, positive changes for Native people and their participation in the silviculture industry. There should be a bidding process established where Native people have preference in their traditional territories, particularly in areas close to Native communities. "***
>
> **Mary Thomas**
> **Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C.**

Though silviculture is a local activity, the jobs do not necessarily go to the communities near forestry operations. It is difficult to pinpoint why First Nations have not been successful in what would appear to be a natural occupation. Where young Native people have been educated and trained by teachers sensitive to Native values and where the supervisor is a Native person, programs can be successful. The essential ingredients to a successful Native silviculture program are culturally sensitive

training, technical assistance in the form of an extension program, and Native community control and support.

There are a number of ways that forest companies and the Ministry of Forests can assist First Nations to become more involved in silviculture. The main emphasis must be on long-term and secure employment. Stewardship contracts, where First Nations take responsibility for reforestation and tending an area, are excellent ways to provide secure employment.

Direct contracts to First Nations can be negotiated at competitive rates so that jobs go to those who live near forestry operations. Extension and training programs to assist Native people to learn silviculture skills and bid on silviculture contracts can vastly increase the number of Native people involved in forestry.

The Task Force recommends:

10. ***The Ministry of Forests and the forest companies develop a Native Silviculture Program with First Nations to ensure that Native people become more involved in the silviculture industry. One objective is to increase Native participation to at least 20% of the silviculture activities in the province through direct negotiation of stewardship contracts and other negotiated long-term arrangements to ensure ongoing community based employment opportunities.***

11. ***Native forestry extension workers be employed in the Ministry of Forests' district offices to assist First Nations in all aspects of forestry, with particular emphasis on silviculture.***

12. ***To facilitate the Native Silviculture Program, First Nations and Tribal Councils with an interest in forestry be provided with start-up funding to employ technicians or professional foresters. These positions should be filled by Native people, whenever possible.***

3.5 Fire Protection

"The mid coast has received excellent cooperation from the Bands in our fire-suppression program. Native fire fighters have been instrumental in assisting the ministry in dealing with the serious threat of forest fires. Training and support will continue to be provided in order to develop trained fire fighters and a unit crew."

Jim Munn
District Manager, Mid Coast Forest District

Native people are increasingly involved in forest fire fighting. During 1991, the Ministry of Forests expanded the Native Unit Crew Program to establish ten 20 person unit crews to fight wildfires throughout the province. Crews are also trained to carry out other forestry related activities when they are not fighting fires.

In the past five years, the B.C./Canada Native Forest Fire Agreement has spent $3,339,400 to provide First Nations with protection equal to that of other B.C. residents. First Nations have received few of the economic benefits resulting from these expenditures.

The Task Force recommends:

13. *The Native Unit Crew Program be expanded with emphasis on Native participation in all areas of forest protection, including fire bosses and foremen, suppression planning, equipment hiring, and crew training.*

3.6 Economic Development

"A new form of tenure, the Haisla Tribal Forest should be created to accommodate the principles of Haisla forestry which are multiple and integrated use, sustainable development, and community control. It must serve the economic needs of the Band and maintain a sustainable yield from the forests. Job creation and manufacturing of value-added wood products, coupled with silviculture work will create long-term employment and business opportunities."

Kitamaat Village Council

Many submissions to the Task Force pointed out that because most Native people live on reserves in rural or remote areas, they depend heavily on the resource base of the reserve. However, reserve land provides limited economic and employment opportunities.

To realize the full economic potential, many Native communities must first resolve a number of social, cultural, political, and environmental issues.

These include:

- the level of investment in community infrastructure;
- acceptance of the social and cultural implications of economic development; and,
- availability of development capital.

Forestry has been identified by Native organizations at all levels as an economic and social development priority. Reserves and forests within traditional territories contain many renewable resources including forage, wildlife, timber, recreation, food gathering, water supplies, and fish. These resources are the basis for current and future First Nations' economic development.

Only a fraction of the overall economic and social returns from natural resources harvested from Native reserves and from lands within First Nations traditional territories goes to Native people. This is due to:

- a shortage of trained Native workers;
- the small number of Native-owned logging and silvicultural contracting companies;
- the lack of financing for Native businesses;
- the shortage of Native-owned businesses taking advantage of the economic spin-offs from forestry activities; and,
- the limited Native involvement in the wood products manufacturing sector.

This situation is changing as Native people become more involved in managing reserve and off-reserve forest lands and as funding and technical support increases. The province and forest companies are showing more interest in joint ventures and cooperative management agreements with First Nations.

The provincial government can encourage economic development by favouring tenures awarded to companies that form joint ventures and cooperative management agreements with First Nations. The proposed First Nations' forest licence will also provide needed opportunities.

Even so, major constraints to improving the level of forest management and socioeconomic returns to Native people will remain. The *Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy* identified a number of development constraints facing aboriginal communities. It stated:

> "On the supply side, there are shortages of financial and human capital and the inadequacy of current mechanisms to provide employment enhancing skills and transition assistance. Most aboriginal communities and individuals lack the financial resources to start up even the smallest enterprise. They have limited access to debt financing."

The Task Force, therefore, has concluded that increased access to financing is essential for First Nations economic development in forestry.

The Task Force recommends:

14. ***A Native Forestry Capital Pool be created as a revolving fund to enable Native companies and individuals to borrow capital to establish forestry-related economic ventures.***

Many non-Native companies sub-contract and form joint ventures with large forest companies. The same relationship could create considerable economic opportunities for Native companies.

The Task Force recommends:

15. ***The forest industry establish a committee with First Nations to encourage forest companies and First Nations to form joint ventures.***

A number of recommendations deal with Native employment in the forest sector. In addition to these recommendations, the Task Force feels it is important to increase the level of Native employment within private companies and within the government.

The Task Force recommends:

16. ***The Ministry of Forests and forest companies consult with First Nations to develop and implement programs to increase direct, full-time Native employment within their organizations.***

3.7 Integrated Resource Management

"In the State of Washington, Native people are selected from their tribes to sit on the State Forestry Management Boards where they are directly involved in decision making and have a veto power. In B.C., far too often Native people have been given token positions on advisory boards with no real commitment from the province to give Native people decision making powers."

Chief George Harris
Chemainus Tribe

Traditionally, Native people practised a form of "holistic forestry." In other words, they considered all forest values including wildlife, fish, trees, water, soil, and plants used for medicinal and spiritual purposes. Integrated forest management includes these same values, and also involves wilderness, recreation, and parks. People are also an important part of the forest environment.

Although job creation is a priority in most Native communities, the Task Force repeatedly heard that Native people regard forests as a place rather than a resource. They do not see forests simply as standing timber but as a complex ecological inter-relationship. If the importance of forests to Native people was ranked, timber for harvest would appear in the bottom half of the list.

Native people have long held forests and natural resources as special. As Native people become more involved in forest management within their traditional territories, ways must be found to incorporate spiritual and cultural values into modern forest management practices.

The provincial government can help preserve these "intangibles" where they occur off the reserve (e.g. burial grounds, traplines, sacred sites). Many First Nations feel that forest management and planning programs must affirm these other values and allow for their protection.

A problem identified by First Nations is that it is often difficult for them to actively participate in resource management planning within their territories. They do not have the technical data (e.g. maps and inventories) to effectively participate in the discussions nor can they always afford to attend meetings in non-Native environments far from Native communities.

The Task Force recommends:

17. ***First Nations be encouraged and assisted in participating in the integrated resource management, local resource use and timber supply area planning processes through a full consultation process involving the local Native communities.***

18. ***Funding be made available to First Nations so that they can be fully involved in the planning process at local, district, regional and provincial levels.***

19. ***First Nations archaeological sites and ancient burial grounds be identified and protected with the enforcement of legislation preventing their disturbance or destruction by forestry activities.***

3.8 First Nations Forestry Council

The Task Force was aware of a high degree of frustration among Native people over the countless studies of Native needs that have not produced results. The Task Force would like to see an ongoing process that will begin to respond to identified needs. Industry and government indicated they had learned a lot about Native forestry from the Task Force meetings. In this sense, the Task Force not only served as an ear to Native communities but also performed a valuable role as a communication and education intermediary between First Nations, government, and industry.

Ways must be found to keep these lines of communication open and to implement the recommendations of the Task Force. Some of the recommendations will have a major impact on the three parties involved and on non-Native forest based communities.

Implementing the recommendations will require the direct involvement of First Nations and the forest industry. We urge the government to establish a permanent council whose mandate will be to:

- assist government to outline policies to create Native forest tenures;
- facilitate a process by which First Nations, government and industry can set targets for Native tenures in each forest district;
- assist in the development of a Native silviculture program;
- assist in the development of joint ventures and cooperative management agreements between First Nations, government, and industry;

- define ways for Native economic development interests to become more involved in the forest industry;
- hold conferences around the province to involve the public and continue the dialogue between First Nations, government, and the forest industry; and,
- assist in the development of a Native forestry education program.

The council size and membership would be negotiated by representatives of First Nations, government, and industry.

The council would support the implemention of the recommendations made by the Task Force on Native Forestry, and report to government through the Ministers of Forests and Aboriginal Affairs. The first step will be to prepare a strategic plan that will define in general terms:

- a First Nations forestry education program;
- a First Nations forestry economic development program;
- a First Nations silviculture program; and,
- policies to implement the recommendations that will create Native forest tenures.

The Task Force recommends:

20. ***A First Nations Forestry Council be established to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force and to continue and strengthen communication between First Nations, the government, and the forest industry on forestry issues.***

Glossary

Aboriginal: First Nations/Native people

Allowable annual cut (AAC): The volume of wood which may be cut each year from a forest management unit. Roughly equal to the amount of new growth produced by the forest each year including a proportion of the mature volume less deductions for losses due to fire, insects and disease.

Basic silviculture: A term used by the Ministry of Forests to refer to the silviculture treatments that are used to ensure the establishment of free-growing trees. May include activities such as surveying, site preparation, planting, direct seeding or brushing. See intensive silviculture.

Biogeoclimatic zone: A broad geographic unit that has distinguishing characteristics of climate, soil and vegetation.

Brushing: The clearing of brush and unwanted types of trees called weed species from around young trees.

Business plan: A plan identifying markets, customers, expenditures, and finances required to carry out a business based on projected revenues and costs over a specific period of time.

Clearcutting: Removal of all the trees from a given area at the same time

COFI: Council of Forest Industries.

Community watershed: A watershed on which a community holds a water licence and is the drainage area upstream of the licensed point of extraction. (see Watershed)

Cutting permit: The document that contains the authority to harvest trees on a woodlot licence and other licences.

Crown Land: Land that is owned by the Crown or province. A native reserve is federal Crown land controlled by Canada.

Direct forest revenues: Provincial revenues from stumpage, royalties, leases, and licence fees paid by holders of timber- harvesting tenures.

Ecosystem: A forest ecosystem is a complex system of biophysical processes and living organisms and other interacting components and processes. It comprises plants, animals and microbes, interacting with soil and climate.

Ethno-linguistic: Referring to distinct cultures and languages.

First Nations: The aboriginal peoples of Canada.

Forested area: For the purpose of evaluating per cent harvested within watersheds, forested area is defined as all areas supporting forest cover within the provincial forest and parkland. Open range, rock, swamps, and water are excluded. Also excluded from watershed units is private land and Native Reserves.

Forest licencee: The holder of a tree farm licence, forest licence, pulpwood agreement, timber sale licence, or timber licence under the *Forest Act*.

Forest licence: A forest licence grants the right to harvest a certain amount of timber each year from a specific area. It is the longest form of volume-based tenure and is issued for 15 years. The licence must be renewed after 5 years or it will expire at the end of its 15 year term.

Forest tenures: The various permits and licences used by the Ministry of Forests to allow individuals and companies to harvest trees on Crown land.

FRDA: Canada-B.C. Forest Resource Development Agreement.

Geoclimatic: Referring to geography and climate.

Gross domestic product (GDP): The value of production of goods and services in the economy resulting from factors of production, in particular from capital.

Gross provincial product (GPP): Measures the total value of production attributable to the residents of a given region during a particular time frame, regardless of where that production takes place.

Harvesting: Logging.

Intensive silviculture: A term that refers to the activities used to increase the yield and value of forest stands. Includes treatments such as site rehabilitation, conifer release, spacing, pruning, and fertilization. Also known as incremental silviculture.

Integrated resource management: The comprehensive management of two or more natural resources over a defined area with regards to maintaining, or enhancing where possible, resource quality in perpetuity and avoiding permanent or long-lasting damage.

NITEP: Native Indian Teacher Education Program at the University of B.C. in which Native students are culturally supported in the university environment.

Range land: Land used for grazing by domestic livestock and wildlife including grasslands and forest lands.

Registered professional forester: A person registered under the *Foresters Act*, who performs or directs work or services requiring specialized knowledge, training and experience in forestry.

Replaceable: Term used by the Ministry of Forests to summarize the process whereby a new timber tenure licence is issued to replace an original, according to the *Forest Act*.

Silviculture: Activities involved in growing and tending a forest such as seed collection, nursery work, surveying, site preparation, planting, thinning, brushing and weeding, pruning, protection and fertilizing.

Stewardship: The constructive use and development of the forests, measured against a long-term standard of trusteeship.

Stumpage: The price paid to the province by licencees for trees harvested from Crown land.

Tenure: See forest tenures.

Timber supply area (TSA): Management units in which forest companies manage the timber resource according to plans prepared by the Ministry of Forests. The most common type of timber tenure in a TSA are the forest licence and the timber sale licence. There are 35 TSAs in B.C. and 32 TFLs.

Tree farm licence (TFL): Tenure which includes the right to harvest a specified volume of timber annually with the obligation to carry out all phases of forest management on behalf of the Crown. A TFL has a 25-year term, replaceable every 10 years in an area with fixed boundaries.

Value added: The increased value given to a product that has been manufactured from raw material and can be sold for a higher price.

Watershed: The area drained by a river, stream or other waterway.

Woodlot licence: Small, area-based tenure not attached to processing facilities. Originally developed as an adjunct to ranching to provide seasonal employment.

Appendix 1
Terms of reference - Task Force on Native Forestry

Mandate

To recommend ways to increase Native participation in the forest sector.

Scope

The Task Force will address Native participation in the forest sector from an economic and community development perspective. Issues to be examined will include forest tenures on Crown land, joint ventures with forest companies, training and skill development, management expertise, sources of capital, contracts with government for silviculture and forest protection, employment with forest companies, and participation in forest development planning.

Objectives

In considering the issues regarding Native participation in the forest sector the Task Force will:

1. document current participation and interest by Native people;
2. document programs and opportunities currently available to Native people;
3. identify limitations to participation by Native people; and,
4. recommend strategies to increase Native participation.

Structure

The Task Force will be established by the Government of British Columbia, as represented by the Ministers of Forests, and Aboriginal Affairs (the "designated ministers").

Membership

The Task Force will be chaired by the president of the Intertribal Forestry Association. Six additional Task Force members have been selected and jointly appointed by the Chairman of the Task Force and the designated ministers:

- Harold Derickson, Chair
- Bob Christie
- Peter Levy
- Don Moses
- Thomas Pierre
- Jack Toovey
- Richard Watts

Methodology

The Task Force will meet as a group and consult with Tribal Councils, industry associations, and agencies directly involved in the forest industry.

Meetings and consultation of the Task Force will generally be open to the public. The Task Force may, however, at its discretion, consider holding private meetings.

The Chairman will be the sole spokesperson for the Task Force.

The Task Force will produce a report which includes recommendations for ways to increase Native participation in the forest sector.

All decisions of the Task Force, including administrative decisions, will be made according to a majority vote, with the exception of the recommendations of the Task Force and the Task Force report which will be made on a consensus basis.

The Task Force may sponsor consultant work.

Time Frame

The Task Force will submit its report to the B.C. government through the Designated Ministers and to the Intertribal Forestry Association.

The Government of B.C. will issue a formal response to the Task Force report within 90 days from its receipt and at that time the Task Force report will be made public.

Note: The terms of reference were amended to replace Earl James Smith with Thomas Pierre and Richard Watts, February 28, 1991.

Appendix 2
Profile of Task Force Members

- Harold Derickson – Chair of the Task Force, President/Manager, Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C.
- Bob Christie – Registered Professional Forester with extensive forest industry experience in the interior of B.C.
- Peter Levy – Registered Professional Forester, Manager of Native Affairs, Ministry of Forests.
- Chief Donald Cyril Moses, B.A. – Lower Nicola Band, has extensive experience in economic development planning and management of Native business ventures.
- Thomas Pierre – Forestry advisor to the Carrier – Sekani Tribal Council, has extensive experience in the forest industry with Tanizul Timber Ltd.
- Jack Toovey – Registered Professional Forester with extensive experience in the forest industry.
- Richard Watts – Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council Southern Co-chair, has considerable experience in Native economic development and silviculture contracting.

Appendix 2
Presentations Made to the Task force

Prince George, B.C. – November 19, '90

- Chief Peter Quaw, Fort George Band
- Justa Monk, Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
- Chief Robert Michell, Stellaquo Indian Band
- Patrick Michell, Councillor, Stellaquo Indian Band
- Victor Komori, Tanizul Timber, Operations Manager
- Cameron Beck, Chicotin, Ulkatcho, Kluskus Nation
- Chief Roy French, Takla Lake Band
- Leonard Thomas, Chief, Nak'azdli Band (mailed in presentation)

Fort St. John, B.C. – November 20, 1990

- Dean Dokkie/Stewart Cameron, Treaty 8
- Ken Pendergast, Ministry of Forests, Fort St. John Forest District

Port Hardy, B.C. – January 14, 1991

- Chief Russel Kwasistala, Kwakuitl District Council
- Chief Pat Alfred, Nimpkish Band
- Fred Lowenberger, Interfor
- Wayne Green, Canfor
- Berni Zimmerman, MacMillan Bloedel, Port McNeill

Nanaimo, B.C. – January 15, 1991

- Richard Leo, Kyuquot Band
- Ronald Frank, Courtney Forester
- Don McMillan, Fletcher Challenge Canada
- Paul Pashnik, Ministry of Forests, Port Alberni Forest District
- Don Slugget, Ministry of Forests, Campbell River Forest District

Victoria, B.C. – January 16, 1991

- George Harris, Chemainus Band
- Geraldine Shirley, South Island Tribal Council
- John Howard, MacMillan Bloedel
- William Cafferata, MacMillan Bloedel

Vancouver, B.C. – February 4, 1991

- Paul Kuster, Ministry of Forests, Squamish Forest District
- Jim Munn, Ministry of Forests, Mid-Coast Forest District

Chilliwack, B.C. – February 5, 1991

- Ken Stenerson, RPF Woodlands Manager, Scott Paper Limited
- Jack Mussell, Skwah Indian Band
- Bradley Charlie, Chehalis Band
- Vic Doerksen, Ministry of Forests
- John Sam, Nlaka'Pamux Nation Tribal Council

Williams Lake, B.C. – February 15, 1991

- Stanley Boyd, Chilcotin, Ulkatcho, Kluskus Nation
- David Zirnhelt, MLA Cariboo
- Cariboo Lumber Manufacturers' Association
- William Chelsea, Cariboo Tribal Council
- Noel Haynes, Ulkatcho Band Consultant

Kamloops, B.C. – March 4, 1991

- Steve Tolnai, Weyerhauser Canada Ltd.
- Barry McDougall, Shuswap Tribal Council
- Bob Miller, Ministry of Forests, Kamloops Forest District
- Dan Donaldson, Ministry of Forests, Lilloet Forest District
- Dave Archie, Canoe Creek Band

Merritt, B.C. – March 5, 1991

- Chief Gordon Antoine, Coldwater Band
- Gordon Prest, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology
- Tim Sheldon, Ministry of Forests, Merritt Forest District
- Ross Harris, Tolko Industries

Prince Rupert, B.C. – April 24, 1991

- Gary Adolph, Ministry of Forests, North Coast Forest District
- Karen Davies, North Coast Tribal Council

Terrace, B.C. – April 25, 1991

- Pat Ogawa, Skeena Cellulose
- Pat Edzerza, Tahltan Tribal Council
- Hal Williams, Kitimaat Village Council
- Brian Downie, Ministry of Forests, Terrace Forest District
- Vic Maskulak, Skeena Sawmills
- Keith Spencer, Westar Timber

Hazelton, B.C. – April 26, 1991

- Ron Mould, Ministry of Forests, Kispiox Forest District
- Ray Morgan, Gitwangak Band
- Brian Quick, Babine Forest Products
- Bill Brinnen, Ministry of Forests, Burns Lake Forest District
- Gord Gunson, West Frazer Mills

Victoria, B.C. – May 15, 1991

- Corey Smeele, Ministry of Forests, Silviculture Branch
- Mike Wyeth, Ministry of Forests, Silviculture Branch
- Bob Harding, Ministry of Forests, Timber Harvesting Branch
- Russ Cozens, Ministry of Forests, Timber Harvesting Branch
- Harry Powell, Ministry of Forests, Human Resources Branch
- Mike Mearns, Employment and Immigration Canada
- Wayne Coombs, FORCAN

- Tony Hughes, FORCAN
- Terry Volt, Ministry of Forests, Recreation Branch

Cranbrook, B.C. – May 23, 1991

- Sophie Pierre, Ktunaxa/ Kinbasket Tribal Council
- Greg Bach, Ministry of Forests, Cranbrook Forest Service
- Dan Gravelle, Tobacco Plains
- Vic Clement, St. Mary's Band
- Chief Joe Nicolas, (presentation made by Sophie Pierre)

Prince George, B.C. – July 4, 1991

- Steve Potter, Fletcher Challenge Canada
- Gordon Pierre, Ingenika Band
- Emil McCook, Fort Ware Band
- Harley Chingy, McLeod Lake Band
- Paul Klotz, Carrier Lumber
- Mike Robertson, Cheslatta Band
- Peter Quaw, Fort George Band
- Tom Turner, Woods Manager, Frazer Lake
- Gerry Deere, Canadian Forest Products
- Doug Little, Northwood Forest Products
- Bruce McLean, West Frazer Mills

Kelowna, B.C. – July 5, 1991

- Bruce Devitt, Association of Profesional Foresters
- Steve Bercek, Osoyoos Indian Band
- Heather Rice, Westbank Indian Band
- Peter Terbasket, Upper and Lower Similkameen Bands
- Barry McDougall, Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
- Mary Thomas, Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C.
- Clay Perry, IWA-Canada
- Greg Gabriel, Penticton Indian Band
- Byron Louis, Okanagan Indian Band
- Nick Arckle, Gorman Brothers

Appendix 4
Examples of Native / Forest Industry / Government Successes

The following are only some of the success stories in Native forestry in B.C. It is hoped that in the future all parties involved will build on the successes, using them as a models for the future.

1. Tanizul Timber Ltd.

In the 1970's, the Tl'azt'en Nation (Stuart Trembleur Lake Band) decided to promote economic activity and employment by becoming involved in the forest industry. This was not an easy thing to accomplish. Initially, the Band had to overcome resistance from the Ministry of Forests because of its lack of experience in business and resource management coupled with a lack of funding.

In March 1981, Tanizul Timber Ltd. was incorporated by the Band as their business arm in the forest industry. The company's specific purpose and immediate goal was to acquire the newly proposed TFL #42 in order to establish an employment base for the Band at Tache and to bring the "Tanizul Triangle" lands under integrated resource management.

With no equity, experienced personnel or past experience in forest management, the Band focussed its application on the social and economic benefits to the local Native community. Their proposal was to include the Band Reserve lands in the TFL for management purposes. Provisions of the Indian Act did not allow this. In order for the Band to receive the TFL, an Order-In-Council was passed by the federal government transferring forest management rights and responsibilities on the reserve lands from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to the Band. In April 1982, the TFL was awarded to Tanizul Timber for a renewable period of twenty-five years. The AAC for TFL #42 is 132,300 m].

The Band's original aims and objectives were to:

1. Create a stable employment base close to home for its members;
2. Provide Band members with meaningful and practical job training leading into long-term employment;
3. Contribute to the immediate and long-term social and economic benefits of the province through intensive management of the resources in the TFL.

All of these objectives have been achieved. Many Band members have been trained in logging and silviculture work and are working either directly for Tanizul or with local contractors in the area.

Tanizul Timber has 8 Native office employees out of 11 total, the logging crew has another 5 and there are two brushing crews with 18 Native workers on contract with the Ministry of Forests. There is also a sawmill under construction as part of a joint venture, Teeslee Forest Products Ltd., which will have 20 to 25 employees per shift.

2. Oweekeno Band Council

The Oweekeno Band is located on the Wannock River in Rivers Inlet in the Mid Coast region of B.C. The Band became involved in forestry through a number of government-funded training programs for its members, starting in 1975. The silviculture crew members trained in these programs are still actively employed in contract work with the Ministry of Forests and local forest companies. The Band also has a small sawmill which has produced lumber for building Band member houses, wharves and other projects. The Band has an Integrated Resource Use Plan in place for its traditional territories. The Band has also been involved in a joint venture logging operation. In 1987, the Band applied for a Tree Farm Licence but no action has been taken on it to date.

3. Ne-duchun Forest Products Ltd

Ne-Duchun Forest Products Ltd. is owned jointly by the Naughtly, Stellaquo and Stony Creek Bands. The company currently has a 6 month contract with the Ministry of Forests under the Category 3 Unit Crew program. There are 20 Native workers on 4 Unit crews based in the 3 villages who have all received training in firefighting and basic silviculture. The crews do spacing, brushing, range enhancement and recreation work when they are not fighting fires. It is of mutual benefit to have a local well trained and organized silviculture workforce. The Native crews have expressed interest in travelling outside their own territory to do firefighting.

4. Nuxalk Nation

The Nuxalk Nation is located in the Bella Coola Valley on the Mid Coast of British Columbia. Since 1975, the Band has taken a number of initiatives to create jobs in the forestry sector. Band members were trained under government-funded programs in all aspects of silviculture contract work. The silviculture crew is doing contract work with the Ministry of Forests and local forest companies. The Band also runs its own small sawmill which provides lumber for housing and other on reserve projects. In 1987, the Band applied for a Tree Farm Licence with no results to date.

5. Babine Forest Products

Babine Forest Products is located on the Burns Lake Indian Reserve in north central B.C. It is a fully modern mill with optimization equipment throughout the sawmill and a planermill. The annual production is 230 MMfbm with a lumber recovery of 270 fmb/m]. It is one of the most cost effective mills in the interior. It began in 1974 as a joint venture between Weldwood Canada (44%), Westar Timber (24%), Eurocan Pulp & Paper (24%) and the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation (8%). The Burns Lake Native Development Corporation (BLNDC) consists of five local Bands - Lake Babine, Cheslatta, Nee Tahi Buhn, Burns Lake and Rose Lake. In 1988 Westar sold it shares to the other partners on a proportional basis so that today the BLNDC owns 10% of the company. Direct Native involvement includes a seat on the Management Committee and over 32% of the workforce (70 jobs). Of these 70 jobs, 55 are key operator or trades positions and over 50% of these employees have been at Babine 10 years or more. Also, the Sawmill Superintendent, Safety Committee Chairman and a Maintenance Supervisor are Native employees.

The BLNDC also holds a 40% interest in a joint venture called Burns Lake Specialty Wood Products Ltd. which is building a $10 million remanufacturing mill in Burns Lake. This enterprise holds a Timber Sale Licence under the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program with a total AAC of 900,000 m] over 10 years.

6. Zaul-Zap Industries Ltd.

Zaul-Zap Industries, located in the Nass Valley, is owned by the Gitwinksihlkw Band Council (Canyon City). The company started in 1978 as a logging company which operated on the reserve and in a Small Business Sales Licence area off reserve. The Band built a small saw mill and acquired a Forest Licence tenure to supply the mill. This Forest Licence area had too small a volume of timber to support the mill and it has been shut down for the last 3 years. The company is currently applying for a larger tenure. The company has an annual quota to contract log on TFL #1.

7. Cheslakee Logging Ltd.

One of the oldest Native owned logging contracting businesses in the province is Cheslakee Logging Ltd., solely owned by the Hanuse family based on northern Vancouver Island. The company was started in 1943 when the Hanuse family purchased an existing logging company and in the same year acquired the rights to cut timber on Indian Reserve #3, the Cheslakee Reserve, and also the rights to crown lands in the vicinity of the mouth of the Nimpkish river. The company was incorporated

in 1949. The company carries out stump to dump logging under contract to Canadian Forest Products. Cheslakee also operates a shake and shingle mill located in the Fraser Valley. The founder of the company, Dan Hanuse, is a respected member of the coastal forest industry and has been the president of the Truck Loggers Association.

8. Ehattesaht Tribe

The Ehattesaht Band, from the west coast of Vancouver Island, is involved in logging and silviculture contracting. The Band acquired a forest licence in 1972 which was the second-largest tenure of its kind awarded up to that time. The Forest Licence provides for an annual harvest of about 75,000 m]. Hecate Logging Ltd., which began operating in 1972, is jointly owned and operated by the Band through its company Maquinna Development Corporation and a non-Native timber company, Coulson Timber Products. Hecate Logging generated about $5.5 million in gross revenue in 1990.

Four Band members own and operate a silviculture contracting company, called Century Forest, that does work for the Ministry of Forests and local forest companies.

9. Cariboo Indian Enterprises Ltd.

Cariboo Indian Enterprises Ltd. of Williams Lake is owned by 15 Bands and operates the 41,000 hectare Chilcotin Military Block of the Department of National Defence under an agreement between the federal and provincial governments. The firm owns its own logging equipment and has employed up to 35 Native employees.

10. Siwash Silviculture

In the Interior, the Fraser Canyon Indian Administration runs the Siwash Silviculture company which employs workers from the five member bands on planting and spacing contracts for local forest companies and the Ministry of Forests. The Native supervisor was trained at the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology and he now trains and manages the all Native crews. Siwash has been in operation for eight years.

11. Nass Valley

In the Nass Valley, the Nisga'a Tribal Council has worked with the local forest company, Skeena Cellulose, and the Forest Ministry office to secure 10% of the local silviculture contract work for the Native crews from local villages. The Tribal Council met with Ministry of Forests staff and industry representatives to address the problem of outside contractors bringing in non-Native outside crews to do all the local silviculture work. There are now four Native silviculture contract crews working on spacing and brushing contracts in the valley, employing thirty workers. There are two crews from New Aiyansh Village and two from Lakalzat (Greenville) Village.

The Tribal Council has also initiated a silviculture contractor training program through North West Community College, funded by Canada Employment and Immigration (CEIC). Sixteen participants from four villages are currently enrolled in the program.

12. Kyuquot Native Tribe

The Kyuquot Band on the West Coast of Vancouver Island has a 6 person silviculture crew that has successfully bid on and completed brushing and planting contracts for Interfor and the Ministry of Forests. The Band wanted to be involved in the forestry activities in their area and secure employment for their members. All of the crew were trained through CEIC job training programs.

13. North Thompson Indian Band

The North Thomson Indian Band in Barriere has entered into a cooperative forest management program with Tolko Industries Ltd. Tolko has assisted the Band with training, bidding on a small business sales licence and managing their forest resources. In return, timber is supplied to Tolko and the portable sawmill on the reserve is cutting some of it for them.

14. Scott Paper

Scott Paper has a 35 year record of forestry business activities with Native people. The company purchases cottonwood timber from a number of Bands in the Fraser Valley, on the Lower Mainland and from the Kingcome Band. The company has a 20 person Native pulpblock cutting crew of men and women working on the Tree Farm in Chilliwack. Scott Paper's oldest formalized Tree Farming Agreement is with the Matsqui Band for the cottonwood plantation on Matsqui Island for a 40 year term. The Band hires members where they are available and have the needed skills to do all the forestry activities.

15. Tsay Tay Corporation

The Tsay Tay corporation is a joint economic development venture owned by Finlay Forest Products, Fletcher Challenge Canada, the Ingenika Indian Band and the Fort Ware Indian Band located north of Prince George. The corporation did $1.7 million dollars of business in 1990 and the business plan calls for the Native Bands to assume full control as soon as the Native communities have developed the expertise to run the business independently and competitively. The original idea behind the formation of the company was to provide training for Natives in all aspects of the logging business. To date the training has been in equipment operations, falling and choking.

Appendix 5
Summary of "What We've Heard"

The following are exerpts from verbal and written submissions made to the Task Force during the meetings held from November 19, 1990 in Prince George to the Kelowna meeting on July 6, 1991.

Prince George - November 19, 1990

1. Chief Peter Quaw - Fort George Band

"We are a Nation unto our own and we will need to obtain forest tenures in order to become self-sufficient. We must be an integral part of the management of the forests to ensure the survival of it."

"We are initiating an Aboriginal Forest Management Program at the College of New Caledonia."

"Six of our Band members have worked at the Shelley Sawmill for the last twenty years and only one will be hired by Northwood for their new chip facilities. We also have three families that are small scale logging on sub-contracts, and other members working at the mills and building things. The unemployment rate goes up to 85% in the winter and is around 50% in the summer."

2. Tribal Chief Justa Monk - Carrier Sekani Tribal Council

"The non-Native people who settled in our territories began to establish their kind of government and economic activities. The main economic activities involved logging and mining on large sections of our traditional territory."

"Natives were herded together then moved to small, resource poor reserves. There they attempted to live traditionally but because of the small land base they were unsuccessful. They tried to join the logging and mining work forces but they were shut out and left unemployed. Reserves soon became not communities of proud, independent people but communities of dysfunctional families, many relying on welfare to feed and cloth themselves, and on alcohol to relieve the boredom."

"Although we are now approaching the 21st century, things have changed very little. Corporations still own the resources and Natives still live on reserves and are still excluded from participating in the developing of their traditional territories. However, the provincial government's recently revised stand on the

Land Claims issue may change that situation. If and when the Land Claims issue is settled, Native People will once again have control of their traditional territories. Former relationships between corporations and governments regarding rights to exploit forest, mineral and water resources will need to be changed. Another party, Indian First Nations, will be sitting at the table to discuss the use of the resources located in their territories."

"I know it is impossible to turn back the clock. We may never have a chance to live off the land again but we do have a chance to participate in the economic activities based on our natural resources so that we can make a better future for our people to have a decent life without drugs and alcohol."

"To make a Native business work you can't run it on 50,000 cubic meters to any one band. We want co-management of the resource."

"When Indian People try to get into business there are a lot of stumbling blocks like the Indian Act, provincial legislation, stumpage etc."

"You asked earlier about education and a joint venture where our people work beside professional foresters and for the companies is all part of it. People can be trained on the job."

3. Pat Edzerza - President, Tahltan Tribal council

"In our traditional territories we have the largest block of traplines in BC. which is an important source of income for our people. These areas are being logged and our people were promised jobs to replace trapping but they haven't happened. We are not opposed to development. We want our people to develop along with the resources. Our traditional way of life is being taken away and we want it replaced with something our people can take to the bank. Social problems have come with development and we need programs to help our people."

"What is happening in our area is that we have Native people trained in silviculture but they don't get local work because of the official policy on how the contracts are awarded. We have talked to the foresters and asked them if they are happy with our work and they say they are more than happy but they can't give us the contract because of official policy. Outside contractors get the work and bring in their own people and our people are left out in the cold again. Policy has to change to accommodate us."

4. Chief Robert Michell - Stellaquo Band

"As the committee carries on its work it will have to go to each individual Band to find out what the root of their problems is. You are going to find out that the main cause of their problems is they don't have an economic base, capital or any power."

"We the Stellaquo Indian Band, the Stoney Creek Band and the Naughtley Band, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the province on a joint ventureship for a major sawmill in our area. This Memorandum of Understanding outlines an eight year licence and states that the MOF will help to train our people. It gave us an opportunity to participate in the management of these forest lands from the development planning stage to harvesting."

"As for capital, the Native people are at a disadvantage because of the involvement of the federal government. Most reserves don't have capital assets to get financing and small Bands don't have the business expertise of hired managers to advise them"

"We cannot use the land as collateral because the land does not belong to us. It is owned by the federal government."

5. Patrick Michell - Stellaquo Band

"The Native Indian Teacher Education Program has been successful in bringing Native people into the university environment. One of the reasons it has been so successful is because it incorporates the Native perspective into the curriculum. Native people have a different, more wholistic approach to natural resources."

"Training should be in a combination of Native and non-Native environment. Native people should be able to go to university and not be intimidated by the campus, the curriculum or the other people that are there. Indian people are very community oriented and collective in their way of thinking. You have to allow them to come onto the university campus into an Indian community."

6. **Victor Komori - Tanizul Timber Ltd.**

"One of the most difficult problems our people have is getting silviculture contracts. Many Native contractors cannot afford the 10% security deposit required of the successful bidder on a contract."

"Our Band is building a sawmill at Tache and has incorporated a second company under Community Forest Products."

"We employ about 100 people in logging, contracting and forestry. The numbers vary and a lot of the work is seasonal."

7. **Bruce Mack - Cariboo Tribal Council**

"Canim Lake Band applied for a tree farm licence in 1980 and they were informed that there was no additional cut available. They were applying for a smaller cut than Tanizul, about 100 thousand cubic meters. Since that time a greater volume has been awarded to various tenures in that area. So it wasn't a strong basis for the government argument. The reason given to the Band when they went into negotiations was that there was a freeze on TFLs and no new ones were being awarded."

8. **Cameron Beck - Chilcotin-Ulkatcho-Kluskus Nations Tribal Council**

"The Kluskus and Ulkatcho Indian Bands applied for wholistic TFLs three years ago. The question arises, why tenures? There are three basic reasons, financing, management and social and educational concerns and opportunities. On the issue of financing it is much easier to go to the bank and arrange financing if you have a tenure than if you don't. As for management, the Ulkatcho want to protect things like tourism opportunities, caribou habitat, and mushroom ecosystems. They have a much better chance of doing this if they have tenure. People are much more interested in working on a long term basis and being responsible if they can feel they have a stake in the land and resources. As for the social, educational and economic opportunities, the Bands call these Wholistic TFLs which means they are more concerned about issues such as the caribou habitat etc. than is evident in other forms of forest management. We want the opportunity to teach and train the people of our communities towards a goal of long term employment."

"One of our recommendations is that the Task Force support the establishment of the School of Native Forestry at the University of Northern BC."

"Most importantly I would like the Task Force to ensure the Ministry responds to Native applications for TFLs."

"Industry people laugh about the importance of the mushrooms to the Native economy. The Ministry needs to recognize the importance of the mushroom ecosystem, caribou habitat, tourism values and other things valued by the Native Communities. The Native people learn more if the forest is the school rather than the school being a classroom."

9. Chief Leonard Thomas - Nak'azdli Band

"Direct contracting with the Ministry of Forests in areas of silviculture would be a positive step in addressing current unemployment statistics."

"Over the last year we have expressed interest in a working partnership with local re-manufacturers of saw logs in our area. We feel that a Joint venture with a local firm already established, will benefit the community. It will also assure that the timber resource will stay in the community no matter who of who owns the timber supply licence."

"It is highly probable that existing licence holders may have to give up some of their quotas to meet our request for timber supply. A Joint venture, if successful, can also open doors for our members to participate in other employment opportunities with forest companies."

"Integration of natural resources can also be applied to integration of human growth by improving social standards by using the forestry economy."

"We recommend that an environmental review board made up of Aboriginal people and other integrated users, such as fish and wildlife, trappers, farmers and ranchers, be mandated to review all future forestry development plans. That all the above mentioned user groups have an equal share in utilizing the resource."

Fort St. John - November 20, 1990

1. Dean Dokkie - Headman, Treaty 8 Tribal Association

"The situation with Louisiana Pacific has been a major concern to the three Bands concerned, West Moberly Band, Saulteau Band and Halfway Band. The company has been taking out the spruce and pine for the last 30 years right in the middle of the Bands hunting and trapping territories without any consultation with the Native communities affected. There has been no consideration of the impact on the communities and no consultation involved with any planning or decisions affecting the areas."

2. Chief Stewart Cameron - Treaty 8 Tribal Association, Saultau Band

"Ninety five percent of our Band members rely on trapping for income."

"The overall land base within Treaty 8 does not enable us to hunt, fish and trap for food. What good is our Treaty if we cannot support ourselves? Our people are going to be here for a long time and we have to be involved in the management of our lands."

3. Dianne Bigfoot - Vice-Headman, Treaty 8 Tribal Association

"At this point in time we are just in the early stages of discussing comprehensive resource management plans. We don't know all the Bands concerns yet."

4. Ken Pendergast - Ministry of Forests

"Macrolink is an organization that had a contract through Northern Lights College this summer to train Native people in silviculture and provide them with expertise in contracting. The Forest Service was asked to participate, which it did in providing demonstration and practice areas and at the end of the training the Ministry provided four direct contracts to four of the participants. The intent was to give them first hand experience in a real contract situation. It has been a very rewarding experience and was quite successful."

"I would like to see Native people come to the planning table with a mandate by the people they represent, so they can speak for the group and with their concerns clearly defined and understood"

"There is a lot of missing data and I think that is where our planning has gone astray. Nobody started out with ill intentions but if you only have half the information than the plan is going to be flawed and not satisfy anybody."

5. **Bob Clarke - Canadian Forest Products Limited**

"We would like to think our door is open. I have never had local Bands come in to see us. Not that we've had a bad relationship but there hasn't been a lot of communication. It probably leads to a lot of the problems we are hearing about around the table. I don't doubt the problems exist but if we don't know what the concerns are, how can we address them? I am speaking for my company and the area that I manage "

Port Hardy - January 14, 1991

1. **Karl Sturmanis - Kwakuitl District Council**

"Native communities need some long term economic opportunities that you can't really get from short term projects. They may make a person feel individually good for a few months to a year, but looking down the road what is the basis that those communities are going to build on?"

2. **Chief Russell Kwasistala - Kwakuitl District Council**

"My uncles were loggers and the obstacle to them buying the equipment they needed was they couldn't borrow money from the bank because they couldn't use their house for collateral because it was on the Indian Reserve."

"Another thing is that we were knocked out of the forest industry because of the IWA union. Many of my people on the coast were seasonal loggers. They logged until fishing season started and went back to it after fishing was over. Our traditional way of life was seasonal and nomadic and it doesn't fit in with union seniority."

3. **Chief Pat Alfred - Nimpkish Band**

"There is a company, Canfor, that is sitting down with the Gilford Island Band and listening and talking. We will be watching what happens and if it works out, that may be the approach to take."

"We have had successful students in Alert Bay in the forestry program there. They got the training but there was no work for them when they finished. The Bands aren't funded to make economic development ventures like forestry."

Why is it that Kingcome Village sits across the river from a logging camp but only one person from the village out of 200 people is employed in logging."

"Why can't the forest companies give the Native people priority in bidding on contracts?

4. **Fred Lowenberger - Forester with International Forest Products Ltd.**

"I would like to show you some of the things we are doing with the Kingcome Band. Jointly we are trying to provide economic opportunities. For a number of years we have been working with one or two Band members who are contractors and provide them with silviculture opportunities."

5. **Wayne Green - Canadian Forest Products Limited.**

"We employ Dan Hanuse, a contractor, who has logged for us for almost 35 years and his son now manages the operation. He is with us full time. We also occasionally hire other smaller contractors."

"If it is an open bid contract we are required to give it to the lowest bidder but we also consider the quality of work and who can do the best job."

Nanaimo - January 15, 1990

1. **Chief Richard Leo - Kyuquot Band Manager**

"We are involved in the silviculture end of forestry and we have a crew of six who are working on spacing and planting contracts. What we are trying to develop is a working relationship with the Ministry of Forests as well as the private companies. We are developing contacts with industry people with the help of the Ministry. We have identified the areas that have been logged in the traditional Kyuquot territories as shown on these maps. We are saying in Kyuquot that we want to work together to make the silviculture and other things work for our people."

2. **Ron Frank - Professional Forester for Kyuquot Band**

"The Kyuquot Band wants long term employment for its Band members in the silviculture industry. This year the Band was involved through the Community Forestry Program, which gave their crew nine months of continuous employment. Recently, the Band has submitted a brief to the Ministries of Forests requesting more long term planning so there can be ongoing employment in the silviculture sector."

3. Don McMullan - Chief Forester, Fletcher Challenge Canada Ltd.

"The company as a whole believes that the participation by Native people in forestry resource management should be expanded from the very small base that they currently occupy. We believe we should be doing more to assist those Native people living near or within the tenure operating area to pursue sound economic development opportunities within these areas. The company is looking into training and internship programs which would give the Native peoples in our area the business management skills they need to become self sufficient. We feel we have developed a mutual understanding of each other as neighbours and as different cultures. We see the Native community as business partners and want to develop a skilled labour force we can depend on for a long term basis. There is a need for some kind of joint venture risk program and a business management training fund. We would like to see a government funded business training program set up within our company so we can bring Native people into the company to train them. We have to gain more understanding of the culture of the Native people."

"The joint venture between Fletcher Challenge and the Native people in Mackenzie TSA has been very successful in terms of long term employment. It has involved training and start up participation and in time will become a fully independent business venture largely driven by Native people. To do this kind of enterprise on the coast would be much more difficult because of the requirements of union membership and the conditions of the TFL in that we have to maintain certain proportions of our operations as union and the rest are contract operations."

4. Paul Pashnik - Ministry of Forests, Port Alberni

"In 1987 there was a labour relations dispute between the IWA and MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. over a Job-Trac forestry training program. Two or three months into the programs at Kennedy Lake, Franklin and Sproat Lake Divisions, the IWA Local 1-85 told the company that the Sproat Lake Job-Trac crew would have to be hired under the terms of the IWA's collective agreement which the company refused to do so the union filed a grievance with the Labour Relations Council. Before the LRC met the company and union reached an agreement that any future training programs would have to be under the collective agreement. McMillan Bloedel informed the Ministry that due to the extra cost of hiring trainees as union employees the company would not be sponsoring anymore forestry worker training programs"

5. **Mr. Slugget - District Manager, Ministry of Forests, Campbell River**

"There is presently one forest licence (Hecate Logging Limited) which is 50% owned by the Ehattesaht Indian Band. Although initially there was some problems with this tenure, they are now a well run organization that meets their commitments. This company has the potential to provide Native employment on the West coast of Vancouver Island."

"Over the past year the Ministry of Forests has awarded the Kyuquot Band three silviculture direct contracts with a value of $108,268.00. The work they have been doing is juvenile spacing and brushing on plantations. They have provided a good quality job at competitive prices. The Kyuquot Band is located in an area where there is a huge opportunity for this kind of work as there are many plantations in the area which will require silviculture treatments."

6. **Tony Shebbeare - Council of Forest Industries**

"Over four years ago we put together a province wide Native Task Force for the forest industry. We talked to Government and Native people. The First Nations Council helped us with this. We needed this process to educate ourselves. We recognize the need for Natives to become much more a part of the province in ways that they are comfortable with. We have discovered immense diversity and there is no one solution. The Forestry Community and Native Communities have to start working much more closely together. The Task Force is a good thing and it is getting down to the nitty gritty of what can be done to help "without prejudice to those long term negotiations." It is in both our interests to work together and keep the industry healthy."

Victoria - January 16, 1991

1. **George Harris - Chemainus Tribe and Mid-Island Tribal Council**

"In our Native culture we place extreme importance in the forests. Our culture and our forests cannot be separated. The forest is our cathedral, a place where we do our sacred, spiritual and traditional ceremonies. The forests provide us with our basic traditional foods such as plants, animals and indirectly fish. These foods can be labeled as health foods that society demands more and more. We do not want planning for just the trees, but we want emphasis on the environment and on values other than economic ones."

"It is clear our people need jobs, but unless our Elders and the Indian People are involved in forest management decisions at the top level there will be no jobs left for anybody, let alone Native People."

"In the state of Washington, Native People are selected from their tribes to the State Forestry Management Board where they have direct decision making with full veto power. In BC, far too often Native People have been given token positions on advisory boards with no real commitment from this province to give Natives full management decision making powers. Right now there is total disagreement between the powers about how to manage the forests. Native People are at the table willing to negotiate and we have yet to be listened to."

2. Geraldine Shirley - South Island Tribal Council

"We feel there has been mismanagement of the forests by some of the forest companies in BC and that the government hasn't administered the monies from the forest industries very well. We as Natives have always been concerned with the protection of our forest and fish resources."

"We need to be involved in the management of our forests and we need to clean up the pollution. We want to know if some of the money earned by forestry is going to be used to replenish the resources that have been destroyed through mismanagement of the forests."

3. John Howard - MacMillan Bloedel Ltd.

"Our focus is on employment for Natives in the industry. Right now we have no job applications from Native people. We feel that Native students need job interview skills and we are trying to put together a course on this."

"In the Queen Charlottes the Natives have been very successful in the industry and there should be a study on this to find out why they have been so successful compared to other areas of the province. We have one major operation there that is Native dominated and it is one of our most productive operations from the management down."

Vancouver - February 4, 1991

1. **D.J.Munn - District Manager, Ministry of Forests, Mid-Coast Forest Region**

   "Native participation in the silviculture program has steadily increased in recent years. There was a recent award of three year contracts to the Nuxalk and Oweekeno Bands."

   "The Mid-Coast has received excellent cooperation from the Bands in our fire suppression program. Native firefighters have been instrumental in assisting the Ministry in dealing with the serious threat of forest fires. Training and support will continue to be provided in order to develop trained fire fighters and a Unit Crew."

2. **Paul Kuster - District Manager, Ministry of Forests, Squamish Forest District**

   "The Anderson Lake, Samahquam, Skookumchuk and Douglas Bands formed a cooperative business venture under the Coast Mountain Development Corporation (CMDC). This organization has successfully been involved in many government programs and other employment initiatives with crews doing spacing, planting, brushing, hatchery work and recreational developments. They are currently assembling a small sawmill which will employ five people and produce 30,000 board feet per day. A good rapport has been established between the CMDC, The Forest Service and the local forest companies. We meet twice a year and have been involved in projects and contracts of mutual benefit such as a joint bridge repair, a log house construction project, a shake salvage operation and roadside clearing contracts. This forum also allows for discussion of Management and Development Plans for the area."

   "The Anderson Lake Band presently has a Major Timber Sale Licence in the Lillooet Forest District with an AAC of 7,278 m3. The Band has actively pursued a TFL, Woodlot Licence and recently bid on two timber sales which they did not win. They are registered under the small business enterprise program under N'Quatqua Logging Ltd. and Murray Thevarge. "

3. **John Huizinga - Brinkman and Associates Reforestation Ltd.**

   "There is a tremendous potential for Native communities in silviculture contracting. A number of forest companies in B.C. have expressed a willingness to help Native communities integrate into the silviculture work force."

Chilliwack - February 5, 1991

1. Ken Stenerson - Woodlands Manager, Scott Paper Ltd.

"Scott Paper has a 35 year record of forestry business activities with Native people. We purchase cottonwood timber from a number of Fraser Valley, Lower Mainland and Upcoast Bands. We currently have a 20 person Native pulpblock cutting crew of men and women working on the Tree Farm here in Chilliwack."

"Scott Paper's oldest formalized Tree Farming Agreement is with the Matsqui Native Band for our cottonwood plantation on Matsqui Island for a 40 year term. We hire Band members where they are available and have the needed skills to do all the forestry activities."

"An example of a cooperative forestry interaction is in the Kingcome Valley where our company consulted the Kingcome Band about the TFL application proposal and the Band supported the companies application in view of the employment opportunities it might provide for Band members. Now there is a cooperative business connection between our TFL #34 and the Kingcome Bands Woodlot Licence #48 in that they are selling their main crop of cottonwood to Scott Paper and will be providing a range of contracting services to the company in the development of the TFL lands."

2. Jack Mussel - Skwah Indian Band, Forestry Crew Supervisor

"We don't have a problem with the IWA because we are on contract to Scott Paper."

"We train our people on the job and do roadside brushing for Hydro as well as the cottonwood contracts."

3. Bradley Charles - Chehalis Band

"Our major source of employment are the surrounding mills and logging companies. We are fortunate in having a well timbered reserve which we believed could be a good source of jobs for our Band members if well managed along with our Woodlot Licence. Unfortunately we are unable to carry out harvesting on the Crown Land portion of our Woodlot because Federal Fisheries will not allow it. Their restrictions now make the licence unworkable in its present form. The Band wants to have the Licence moved to another location but cannot get the issue resolved with the Ministry of Forests."

4. **John Sam - Nlaka'Pamux Nation**

"We feel that Woodlot Licences should not be limited one per Band. The Ministry of Forests should put together an information package for Tribal councils on how to aquire a TFL and Forest Licences. A manual on small business practice should be put together."

"Timber should be processed in the area where it is cut. Value added industry should be encouraged on reserves."

Williams Lake - February 15, 1991

1. **Stanley Boyd - Carrier, Chilcotin Tribal Council**

"The government should respond positively to the Ulkatcho and Kluskus Bands' proposals to create Wholistic Tree Farm Licences that would be managed entirely by them. These proposals were made two years ago and would not have interfered with the other licences already in existence in the area but the government refuses to consider them seriously. We have also indicated that we want to enter into a joint venture partnership but no non-Native companies will consider it. We feel that the government is trying to find ways to avoid Native participation in forestry instead of encourage it."

2. **David Zirnhelt - MLA, Williams Lake**

"I feel one of the big problems we have now is that at the deepest level we don't have trust between the cultures and the representatives of the two cultures. That trust takes a long time to develop."

3. **Bruce Mack - Cariboo Tribal Council**

"A large part of the problem is in a lack of education and a training process in forestry is going to be the solution."

4. **Doug Flintoft - Ministry of Forests**

"We have to be very aggressive in taking our plans out to the bands to discuss what we are doing in their areas. It has to be a developmental process from both sides. We are much more prepared to deal with the Native communities than we have been in the past."

5. William Chelsea - Cariboo Tribal Council

"The Bands of the Cariboo Tribal Council have a very strong interest in the concern for the management and tenure of our forest resource. We know the importance of stewardship. First and foremost in our minds has got to be the legacy we leave to future generations. Sustainable development has to be more than our goal, it has to be the first condition of any renewable resource use."

"Reduced harvesting and better resource management will also increase and open new opportunities in a wide variety of other areas such as hunting, trapping and diversification of the tourist industry. Such a diversified economy will provide more jobs in a wider variety of fields, will generate more revenue, will be less susceptible to market fluctuations and will be sustainable. Our Bands and our people can and will be a part of that."

"As to the importance of tenure and title, failure to resolve this issue or further delays in the process will lead to prolonged uncertainty and increased risk of direct disruptive action. We simply cannot and will not stand idly by and watch our resources being stripped away from us."

"The settlement of our Land Claims is the single most important issue to be addressed and substantial progress must be made soon. "

"We propose co-operative economic ventures. We have a labour force and we hope to have natural resources, but we lack some key professional management and entrepreneurial skills. Such co-operative ventures would take a wide variety of forms such as affirmative action, training and hiring policies and programs at all levels including management. We also see joint ventures in value-added manufacturing."

6. Cariboo Lumber Manufacturers' Association

"Members of the CLMA can point to successes and failures in their business dealings with Natives. Most feel there is a great deal of opportunity for further development in areas of contract employment as well as joint-venture projects. It seems clear that Natives do not always fit the mold of what industry has come to recognize as standard practice. Therefore the potential for success lies in some form of compromise for both parties. Ultimately, Natives must have the opportunity to participate and to reach a level of competence to be competitive within the forest industry."

Kamloops - March 4, 1991

1. Steve Tolnai - Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd.

"We must look at impediments from both the non-Native and Native population standpoint. This analysis must be honest, and taken at face value. If an honest, indepth analysis is subverted because of excuses and labels such as racist attitudes and discrimination than the mutually beneficial interfaces of the two groups will not progress. Without going into details we must recognize and deal with impediments such as:

1. Current constitutional and legal framework dealing with the Native population.
2. Land Claims and Aboriginal title issues.
3. Delivery and distribution of social and economic amenities to Native people and Bands.
4. Educational standards and deliveries complimentary to the needs and diverse aspirations of Native people.
5. Union seniority structure at all work sites combined with job base shrinkages.
6. The lack of job skills and cultural impediments to accepting industrial discipline."

2. Mel Monteith - District Manager, Ministry of Forests, Clearwater

"This year between the companies and the Forest Service in Clearwater we planted more than 14 million trees. All the contractors and all the workers are coming from outside of this community. The reason for this is local people are not trained to do the work and don't have any equipment. Some who are employed now make $18.00 an hour at the sawmill and don't want to work for anything less. I think training is the biggest factor."

3. Fred Baxter - Regional Manager, Ministry of Forests, Kamloops

"I don't get a clear vision that companies have a corporate philosophy or policy with respect to its social obligation regarding Natives in their forestry management strategy. I would encourage you to: come up with a company philosophy that is proactive in nature rather than reactive; look at solutions rather than problems we have had in the past; look at the principals of human rights as a culmination for that type of corporate philosophy. We need the big corporations of the world to try to be leaders in this area."

4. Barry McDougall - Executive Director, Shuswap Nation Tribal Council

"In our Treaty negotiations with the federal and provincial governments one of the areas that will be addressed for certain is forestry. We expect to have exclusive forest management and integrated resource management. We will begin as soon as possible to try to eliminate the fears people have, particularly industry. It is our intention, in the Shuswap country, that there be a solid working relationship between all parties and there will be no uncertainty as to the future of business operations in our territories. We see Aboriginal title as being no different than Crown title where people do not fear losing their private property."

"Our job now is to look at what type of skills and knowledge do we need to manage the resources. I think we have gone a long way in that respect through the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council fisheries program with the co-operation of Weyerhaeuser and many others. We have completed our forestry management plans on the reserves. We are now looking outside to determine the type of professional skills, technical skills and skilled labour force we require. We are looking at parks and wildlife and our objective is to have an integrated resource management division. In the end we will have a Department of Natural Resources which will concentrate on establishing pilot projects that identify equal opportunity in the Shuswap country."

5. Dan Donaldson - Ministry of Forests, Lillooet

"The Ministry was prepared to hire a couple of people under the Native Training Program but they ran into union grievance problems in the Merritt District and we had to put the whole thing on hold."

6. Dave Archie - Canoe Creek Band

"There are a lot of areas of silviculture we can go into. We have offers from Ainsworth to train some of our Band members. We have had forestry training courses with 12 in the class. Some of our Band members are on spacing crews working up in 100 Mile."

"We want to incorporate the Indian philosophy into clear cutting and we have discussed it with Ainsworth. This is how we did it, we said, 'Before you make a desert out of our backyard, can we talk to you? They said OK.' So we have presented our case to the pulp wood area 16 before they built that OSP plant up there. We want to be a part of the process since this is our traditional area, we have lived here for the last 2 to 3 thousand years. The land is our meat market, fish

market and we have trainees in the fish and wildlife fields to look after the lakes and restock them. That's where we are coming from."

"They are proposing to build a bridge across the Ganglands area and we have looked at that area and found there is a lot of clear cutting. The ranchers are complaining about their water sheds being destroyed. We decided as of last fall that we'll do something about the situation this summer. We made an agreement with the Chilcotin Tribe that we would protect that area. The neighbouring Bands have agreed that we will prevent the bridge from being built unless we take part in the economic development in the forestry sector. The plan is to blockade both bridges. We are tired of being a welfare state within the federal and provincial systems. Our Band unemployment rate goes up to 90% - 95%. The drop out rate in school is around 95%."

"The problems we have are not just with forestry but we have internal social problems, abuse and substance abuse. Human resource development is the first priority of our Band."

Merritt - March 5, 1991

1. Chief Gordon Antoine - Nicola Valley Tribal Council

"We, the Nicola Valley Tribal Council, recommend the existing tenure holders in the Merritt Timber Supply area be reduced by 25% and that 25% be transferred into a TFL in the name of the 5 Indian Bands in the Nicola Valley. This will be called the Nicola Tribal TFL."

"The Tribal Council insists there be a a total moratorium placed immediately on any additional tenure increases, in any form, in the Merritt Timber Supply area until the Native Tribal TFL is established."

"The Nicola Valley Tribal TFL holders would be able to either build its own converting facilities, owned and operated by the Nicola Valley Tribal Council through a corporation or enter into a Joint venture with an experienced, well managed and financed forest company.

"We further recommend that until the Native TFL is formally agreed to, 25% of all upcoming Ministry of Forests silviculture and fire protection contracts be set aside for Natives only. The terms and conditions to be negotiated immediately for the 1991 season."

2. Gordon Prest - Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

"The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology is developing a culturally relevant curriculum that is called the Native Natural Resource Management Program. The primary goals that are essential to the successful establishment of this program are that the program must be culturally relevant for Native people and under Native control, It must be compatible to some degree to current academic and forest industry community mores and be all encompassing and wholistic in perspective."

"The existing forest tenure system does not have the mandate to address Aboriginal rights and Land Claims. The Native community should not be coerced into accepting these tenures as an option for the provincial government to resolve our Aboriginal rights on the Land Claims issue. In any discussion or negotiation with government let us speak of a Tribal Forest which will be designed to meet Native community realities in light of Aboriginal rights."

Terrace - April 15, 1991

1. Brian Downie - District Manager, Ministry of Forests, Kalum Forest District

"Over the last ten years Kalum Forest District has been very active in forestry job creation programs. The Ministry awards 10% of its contracts to Native contractors and we have Native fire crews in New Aiyansh and Kitamaat Villages. The Tribal Council identifies the people interested in forestry training and Skeena Cellulose is working together with them to get more training funding."

2. Hal Williams - Kitamaat Village Council

"Industrial development in our traditional Haisla territories have left it in a shambles and our culture in jeopardy. There are areas in TFL #1 that were logged forty years ago and never replanted. We must regain control over our resources and only then can we insure a real future for our children."

"We propose the establishment of a new form of tender, a Haisla Tribal Forest which will accommodate the principles of traditional Native forestry with multiple and integrated use, sustainable development and community control. Until this can come about interim measures in the form of Joint Ventures and comanagement of existing tenures could provide for a transition period to prepare for full Native control."

3. **Pat Ogawa - Skeena Cellulose Ltd.**

"The company tenure falls within a number of Lands Claims areas in the Nass and Terrace traditional territories. Over the last five years our company has developed a good working relationship with the Native groups in these areas. We have different contracts with several Bands and local Native contractors. In terms of Native employment, there are ten logging, thirty in silviculture and one hundred or more working in the sawmill and pulpmill in Prince Rupert."

"The company has a working relationship with some Bands and there are others who have not shown the same interest but we deliver the information about our working plans to the villages and tribal councils so they will know what is going on. Our company would like to marry the local skills with our administrative expertise to work cooperatively in a stewardship relationship.

4. **Pat Edzerza - President, Tahltan Tribal Council**

"Our definition of what is the forest industry involves is quite different from some peoples idea. Others think the forest industry is growing trees, cutting them down and sawing them into lumber. For us that's only a small part of the definition. The forest industry for me means the management and utilization of all the resources within the forest, including the water system, wildlife habitat, fish, animal and bird population, recreation and tourism areas. In addition to timber for its own value. I need to say clearly that throughout most of our area of traditional use, the role of the forest in producing trees for logging and sawmilling is of low priority compared with the other uses.'

"The Tahltan Nation is not against development, per say. Our invovement in trade and commerce goes back long time before our first contact with Europeans. Our economy was based not just on hunting and gathering but on a thriving trading business between the Coastal and Interior Tribes."

"The Tahltan People will cooperate with development as long as it is controlled and sustainable and our people participate fully in the development process. We are asking for a fundamentally new approach to Native participation in forest management:

1. Develop our natural resources in an integrated manner.
2. Protect the existing interests already established in our traditional areas.
3. Give our young people the incentive to prepare themselves for responsible positions.

4. Secure a stable economic base in the Natural resource industries that will allow our communities to develop in self-sufficiency and dignity."

5. **Keith Spenser - Westar Timber**

"Our company policy is to hire locally whenever possible. We don't strictly speaking have a policy of hiring Natives. For examples of Native employment, at Kitwanga all our supervisors are Native and they do a good job. There are also two at Carnaby doing very well. A Native woman of the Gitsegukla Band is our cone collecting contractor. She does an excellent job and can have as much work as she can handle."

Hazelton - April 26, 1991

1. **Charlie Wilson - Ministry of Forests, Kispiox District**

"One goal is to increase the participation of the Native community in contracting through the direct awarding of local contracts."

2. **Brian Quick - Babine Forest Products**

"Babine Forest Products is a Joint Venture between the local Native communities and forest companies located on the Burns Lake Indian Reserve. From an operational point of view there are very few special considerations regarding Native employees. As management we try to understand the Native point of view and respect our cultural differences. We have an excellent working relationship with the Native community."

3. **Brian Williams - Chief Councillor, Kispiox Band**

"Often Natives are over looked in terms of planning. We know the resources and we have much to offer."

Cranbrook - May 23, 1991

1. **Sophie Pierre - Kt'unaxa, Kinbasket Tribal Council**

"We want government and private industry to recognize and negotiate with the Kt'unaxa People when they want to use the resources in our traditional lands. The government must adopt a forest management policy which reflects true integrated resource management."

"There is a need to identify and protect the cultural and heritage values before issuance of cutting permits. A study must be done of the environmental impact of the industries operating in an area and a comprehensive resource inventory updated."

"We strongly recommend that a forestry resource liason person to assist the Native community in taking advantage of FRDA II and other initiatives. We need someone working with the Bands."

2. **Don Gravelle - Tobacco Plains Band**

"Our Band has been involved in forestry since the turn of the century. At the present time we have a sawmill and logging operation on the reserve with twelve people employed. There are seven or eight involved in forestry management training and job development programs."

3. **Greg Bach - District Manager, Ministry of Forests Cranbrook**

"Regarding The Native Orientation Program we welcomed it in the office. There is an opportunity for Native people to get involved and there is no end to work that needs doing."

Prince George - July 4, 1991

1. **Steve Potter - Woodlands Manager, Fletcher Challenge, Finley Woodlands Division**

"Tsay Tay Corporation is a company jointly owned by Finlay Forest Industries, Fletcher Challenge and the Ingenika and Fort Ware Indian Bands. It did $1.& million dollars of business in 1990 and the business plan of this corporation calls for the Native Bands to assume full control of the company as soon as they have developed the expertise to run the business independently and competitively."

"What we visualize for the future is the Ingenika and Fort Ware Bands assuming control of all the logging on a sustained yield basis around their communities."

2. **Verne Solonas - McLeod Lake Native Group**

"A percentage of the revenues earned by the province for operating in our traditional territories be set to assist First Nations people to develop busineses and get more involved in the forest industry."

3. **Mike Robertson - Chesiatta Band Manager**

"We are not loggers. We are tied to the land and it provided us with substinence forever. Our people were moved off their traditional lands by the Kemano Project and our way of life disrupted. We do not want to participate in the further destruction of our environment."

4. **Dan Alexander - Forestry and Woodlands Manager, Rustad Bros. & Co. Ltd.**

"The provincial government must make a portion of the forest resource base available for the active involvment of Native groups for total integrated resource management. These opportunities should include small tenures limited to a maximum size of not more than 50,000 m3 and have all the requirements for forest mangement currently attached to Forest Licences. No reduction of harvesting rights existing today that support the manfacturing facilities held by forest companies should be contemplated."

5. **Doug Little - Northwood Pulp & Timber Ltd.**

"Northwood is willing and able to co-operate with the Native community in other business ventures provided the proposals are sound economic propositions."

"The company is prepared to help train silviculture workers, silviculture contractors, and logging conractors."

6. **Chief Emil McCook - Tsay Tay Dene (Fort Ware Band) and Tsay Tay Forestry**

"Looking at the impact of logging on the traditional hunting areas, it is important that we are a part of the planning and we can say no you can't harvest trees in that block."

7. **West Fraser Mills Ltd.**

"It is difficult to enter into business arrangements when Native groups are unable to form business units due to lack of secured assets. We suggest that governments provde a mechanism such as timber sale security or loan guarantees whereby Native business can obtain sources of capital to acquire equipment."

"When encouraging Native participation in forestry, there must be recognition of existing operators to prevent displacement of existing employment. We suggest bid proposals for new opportunities should be awarded based on new local Native employment initiatives."

8. **Hugh Hughson - Tsay Keh Dene (Ingenika Band)**

"A short time ago we were economically poor and now we have opportunities. Is this good for our people or is it bad? We will watch. Time will tell. We do appreciate the assistance that's been given and look forward to continued good relationships with all those invovled. We also look forward to becoming more actively involved in the mangement and business end of logging operations and we look to our own company of Tsay tay Forestry for this. After all it was created as a training vehicle for such purposes. We also look forward to a more active role with the local forestry office in some of the decision making processes."

Kelowna - July 5, 1991

1. **Greg Gabriel - Penticton Indian Band**

"Education for Native foresters should be encouraged with scholarship funding. We need more of our own people in forestry to help the Bands manage their resources."

2. **Byron Louis - Okanagan Indian Band**

"We recommend that the Ministry of Forests increase its Native Employment Iniative to a twelve month program and provide meaningful training in all areas of forestry related skills."

3. **Mary Thomas - Intertribal Forestry Association of B.C.**

"An ongoing Native Provincial working group must be established with the mandate to work with following the top levels of government and Native organizations to ensure the long term recommendations are successfully developed and implemented with maximum Native involvement"

"Forest companies be encouraged to enter into joint ventures with First Natons to create jobs, economic development in native communities and establish a co-operative working relationship for the future."

"The Province and Federal governments establish a Native controlled revolving fund that Native companies, First Nations, Bands and Naitve entrepreneurs can borow from to promote Native forestry enterprises."

"When 86% of the forest is concentrated in 20 companies something is seriously wrong. the tenure system must be reformed as soon as possible to free up forest resources to Native Bands, communities and woodlot operators. Bands, Tribal groups and Native individuals should have preference within traditional territories to any available tenures. If possible the new tenures to Native people should be non-transferable outside the Native community and non-sellable. It is preferred that these tenures benefit future generations."

"There is a need for a forest practices code in BC and Native people must be involved in its development to contribute a Native wholistic forestry ethic."

4. Heather Rice - Westbank Indian Band

"Forestry training and education are very important for the Native community to participate in the forest in industry and in the management of the resource. The Native culture as it relates to natural resources should be encompassed in any studies of these resources."

"There must be more funding made available to First Nations for all types of forestry endeavours. A library containing information on past and current funding sources should be put together."

5. Steven Bercek - Osoyoos Indian Band

"The Osoyoos Indian Band has a land base of about 32,000 acres of which about 1/3 is commercially forested. The Band had a five year management plan done under FRDA I and are very eager to implement it. There is enough timber to support a six person forestry crew year round with proper management. The Band wants the forest managed for all uses such as range, recreation and hunting."

6. Carolynn Anderson RPF - Association of BC Professional Foresters

"The association has a number of awards and scholarships that are presented annually or under special circumstances. Many of these awards are under the umbrella of FORETRUST and these are available to Native students. We are involved in getting information about forestry into the schools so that students know what the options are and what courses they need."

7. **Ken Stewart - Bell Pole Co. Ltd.**

"Over the years our logging and pole manufacturing operations have employed Native Indians directly and have utilized Native Indian logging and planting contractors. Unfortunately, the contracting results have not been too favourable and at this point in time we have no such contractors engaged. Our company, like all others, operates under regulatory, economic and financial restraints and this means that when we hire a contractor to do a job within a certain time frame it has to be done. Preferential treatment of Native Indian contractors failed to yield anything close to adequate performance in either productivity or quality and resulted in considerable added cost as we were forced to engage others to complete contracts or clean up sites."

8. **Clay Perry - Director of Environment and Land Use, International Woodworkers of America - Canada**

"We in IWA - Canada hope and urge that Lands Claims settlements can be reached in ways that don't impose more uncertainties upon our livlihoods."

"I think it is fair to say unions generally have been unfairly identified as the source of employment problems when the real problem was the lack of jobs."

9. **Nick Arkle RPF - Woodlands Manager, Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd.**

"We are also aware that the Sparrow case decision by the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed in 1990 that Aboriginal rights in BC were unextinguished, therefore we must face reality as an industry and open up communications. Some day it might be forced on industry!"

"A trust must develop between both parties. We both have examples of good and bad experiences from past dealings, but we believe that good communication will develop both a trust and a friendship that can only benefit us both and creates the most opportunities in the future."